



US008071112B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Murphy et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,071,112 B2**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **Dec. 6, 2011**

(54) **COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE OF ORF-1358 FROM BETA-HEMOLYTIC STREPTOCOCCAL STRAINS**

(75) Inventors: **Ellen Murphy**, City Island, NY (US); **Emily Mara Braunstein**, New York, NY (US); **Dorys Garcia-Hand**, Croton-on-Hudson, NY (US); **Annaliesa Sybil Anderson**, Upper Saddle River, NJ (US); **Ingrid Lea Dodge**, Cornwall, NY (US); **Eduardo Arturo Rojas**, Briarcliff Manor, NY (US)

(73) Assignee: **Wyeth LLC**, Madison, NJ (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **13/028,734**

(22) Filed: **Feb. 16, 2011**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2011/0171263 A1 Jul. 14, 2011

Related U.S. Application Data

(62) Division of application No. 12/487,831, filed on Jun. 19, 2009, now Pat. No. 7,914,798.

(60) Provisional application No. 61/074,251, filed on Jun. 20, 2008.

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A61K 39/09 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **424/244.1**; 424/185.1; 424/190.1; 435/975; 530/350

(58) **Field of Classification Search** None
See application file for complete search history.

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Primary Examiner — Jennifer Graser

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Victoria S. Nolenda

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention relates to polynucleotides encoding *Streptococcus* group C and G polypeptides and their use in immunogenic compositions. The invention also relates to immunogenic compositions comprising polypeptides encoded by those polynucleotides. In addition, the invention relates to methods of inducing an immune response in mammals against beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* or beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* infection using immunogenic compositions of the *Streptococcus* group C and G polypeptides and polynucleotides.

6 Claims, No Drawings

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COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS OF USE OF ORF-1358 FROM BETA-HEMOLYTIC STREPTOCOCCAL STRAINS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a divisional application of U.S. application Ser. No. 12/487,831, filed on Jun. 19, 2009, which claims priority to Provisional Application No. 61/074,251, filed Jun. 20, 2008. The contents of these applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to polynucleotides obtained from *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* and the polypeptides encoded by such polynucleotides.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The beta-hemolytic *streptococcus* species are important pathogens responsible for numerous human diseases ranging from superficial infections to more severe illnesses. They include species from serological groups A, B, C and G. Group A *Streptococcus* bacteria (*Streptococcus pyogenes*) are accountable for most cases of illness and can result in non-invasive disease such as pharyngitis, scarlet fever, impetigo, cellulitis or erysipelas. Some *Streptococcus* strains can lead to more severe invasive infections such as toxic shock syndrome, necrotizing fasciitis and septicemia. Additionally, complications of surface infections can result in immune-mediated sequelae. Lancefield's Group B *streptococcus* (*Streptococcus agalactiae*) is the predominant cause of neonatal sepsis in neonates and can cause pneumonia in elderly patients. Streptococcal groups C and G were initially recognized as animal pathogens but in recent years have been shown to have a strong potential for human disease. Illness caused by Streptococcal groups C and G generally presents itself similarly as in Group A *streptococcus* but has not been shown to lead to immune-mediated sequelae. Group C and G streptococci are often present in patients with underlying health problems, are of importance for elderly patients and are dispersed among several streptococcal species.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The invention is based on the discovery of novel *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polynucleotides corresponding to the *Streptococcus pyogenes* open reading frame 1358 (ORF1358). The invention encompasses the polypeptides encoded by such polynucleotides.

In one embodiment, the invention provides an isolated polypeptide that comprises at least a fragment of the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:31, which is a consensus sequence of the various novel ORF 1358 sequences obtained from *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis*. In some embodiments, the isolated polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence set

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forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, or SEQ ID NO:32, or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the isolated polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 97.5%, 98, or 99% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32. In some embodiments, the isolated polypeptide has zinc-binding activity. In some embodiments the isolated polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 90%, 95%, 97.5%, 98, or 99% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32.

In one embodiment, the invention provides an isolated polynucleotide that encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:31, or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the isolated polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32, or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the isolated polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:31, or a fragment thereof. In some embodiments, the isolated polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least 90%, 95%, 97.5%, 98, or 99% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32. In some embodiments, the isolated polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence that is at least 90%, 95%, or 99% identical to the polynucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31. In some embodiments, the isolated polynucleotide encodes a zinc binding polypeptide. In some embodiments, the polynucleotide is operably linked to a regulatory element. In some embodiments, the regulatory element comprises an inducible promoter and/or a constitutive promoter.

In one embodiment, the invention provides an antibody that specifically binds to at least a fragment of at least one *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 isolated polypeptide. In some embodiments, the antibody binds an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32. The antibody may be a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a kit comprising an ORF 1358 isolated polypeptide or a fragment thereof whose amino acid sequence is elucidated from *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis*.

cell comprises a polynucleotide vector comprising a regulatory element, which may be a constitutive promoter or an inducible promoter. In some embodiments, the host cell comprises a polynucleotide vector that is a plasmid, a viral vector, or an expression vector. In some embodiments the host cell is selected from a bacterium, a mammalian cell, an insect cell, or a yeast cell.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a kit comprising a polynucleotide or polypeptide comprising a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polynucleotide or polypeptide.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a method for treating a beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* infection in a mammal comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of an antibody that specifically binds to at least one isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide encoded by *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358. In some embodiments, the method uses an antibody that binds an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32. The antibody used in the method may be a monoclonal antibody or a polyclonal antibody. In some embodiments, the beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* infection is treated in a human.

In one embodiment, the invention provides the use of an isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide encoded by *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF 1358 in the manufacture of a medicament useful in the prophylactic treatment of a beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* infection in a mammal. In some embodiments, the medicament is useful in a prophylactic treatment in a human.

In one embodiment, the invention provides a medicament useful in the prophylactic treatment of a beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* infection in a mammal. In some embodiments, the medicament uses an isolated *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polynucleotide comprising an ORF1358 polypeptide. In some embodiments, the medicament uses an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32. In some embodiments, the medicament uses an isolated *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polynucleotide comprising an ORF1358 polynucleotide. In some embodiments, the medicament uses an isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31. In some embodiments, the medicament uses a polynucleotide vector comprising a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus*

subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polynucleotide. In some embodiments, the medicament uses an antibody that specifically binds to at least one isolated polypeptide comprising a polypeptide encoded by *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358. In some embodiments, the medicament uses an antibody that specifically binds an isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, or SEQ ID NO:32. The medicament may use a monoclonal or a polyclonal antibody. In some embodiments, the mammal that the medicament is used in is a human.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEQUENCE LISTING

SEQ ID NO:1 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*.

SEQ ID NO:2 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis* of SEQ ID NO:1.

SEQ ID NO:3 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus intermedius*.

SEQ ID NO:4 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus intermedius* of SEQ ID NO:3.

SEQ ID NO:5 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*.

SEQ ID NO:6 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus* of SEQ ID NO:5.

SEQ ID NO:7 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus anginosus*.

SEQ ID NO:8 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in *Streptococcus anginosus* of SEQ ID NO:7.

SEQ ID NO:9 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*.

SEQ ID NO:10 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis* of SEQ ID NO:9.

SEQ ID NO:11 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis*.

SEQ ID NO:12 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* of SEQ ID NO:11.

SEQ ID NO:13 is the consensus amino acid sequence obtained by aligning the polypeptide sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12.

SEQ ID NO:14 is the nucleotide sequence of primer D1358 F1.

SEQ ID NO:15 is the nucleotide sequence of primer D1358 F3.

SEQ ID NO:16 is the nucleotide sequence of primer D1358 F5.

SEQ ID NO:17 is the nucleotide sequence of primer D1358 R2.

SEQ ID NO:18 is the nucleotide sequence of primer D1358 R3.

SEQ ID NO:19 is the nucleotide sequence of primer D1358 R5.

SEQ ID NO:20 is the nucleotide sequence of primer 1358 F.

SEQ ID NO:21 is the nucleotide sequence of primer 1358 R.

SEQ ID NO:22 is the amino acid sequence of the *Streptococcus pyogenes* high-affinity zinc uptake system protein znuA precursor having NCBI gi 50902983.

SEQ ID NO:23 is the amino acid sequence of the *Streptococcus agalactiae* 2603V/R zinc binding adhesion lipoprotein having NCBI gi 22536713.

SEQ ID NO:24 is the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide encoded by a *Streptococcus agalactiae* orF1358.

SEQ ID NO:25 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*.

SEQ ID NO:26 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis* of SEQ ID NO:25.

SEQ ID NO:27 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*.

SEQ ID NO:28 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis* of SEQ ID NO:27.

SEQ ID NO:29 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus anginosus*.

SEQ ID NO:30 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus anginosus* of SEQ ID NO:29.

SEQ ID NO:31 is the nucleotide sequence of orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*.

SEQ ID NO:32 is the amino acid sequence encoded by orf 1358 in a *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus* of SEQ ID NO:31.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The invention describes novel polynucleotides obtained from *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, and *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* (Streptococcal C+G) strains corresponding to *Streptococcus pyogenes* open reading frame 1358 (ORF1358). Polynucleotide and amino acid sequences for ORF 1358 are provided in published International patent application number WO 02/083859. The novel ORF1358 polynucleotides encode novel polypeptides. These polynucleotides and polypeptides may be used in immunogenic compositions to induce an immune response to beta hemolytic streptococcus or beta hemolytic streptococcus infection in a mammal.

The terms “polynucleotide”, and “nucleic acid”/“nucleic acid fragment” are used interchangeably herein. These terms encompass nucleotides connected by phosphodiester linkages. A “polynucleotide” may be a ribonucleic acid (RNA) or deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) polymer that is single- or double-stranded, that optionally contains synthetic, non-natural or altered nucleotide bases. A polynucleotide in the form of a polymer of DNA may comprise one or more segments of cDNA, genomic DNA, synthetic DNA, or mixtures thereof. Nucleotide bases are indicated hereinafter by a single letter code: adenine (A), guanine (G), thymine (T), cytosine (C), inosine (I) and uracil (U).

A “protein” or “polypeptide” is a chain of amino acids arranged in a specific order determined by the coding sequence in a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide.

The term “isolated” means altered “by the hand of man” from the natural state. If a composition or substance occurs in nature, in order for it to be considered “isolated” it must have been changed or removed from its original environment, or both. For example, a polynucleotide or a polypeptide naturally present in a living animal is not “isolated,” but the same polynucleotide or polypeptide separated from the coexisting materials of its natural state is “isolated,” as the term is

employed hereinafter. Isolated polynucleotides or isolated polypeptides may be purified from a cell in which they naturally occur. Conventional nucleic acid and polypeptide purification methods known to skilled artisans may be used to obtain isolated polynucleotides or polypeptides disclosed herein.

The term “operably linked” refers to the association of nucleic acid sequences on a single polynucleotide so that the function of one is affected by the other. For example, a promoter is operably linked with a coding sequence when it is capable of affecting the expression of that coding sequence (i.e., that the coding sequence is under the transcriptional control of the promoter). Coding sequences can be operably linked to regulatory sequences in sense or antisense orientation.

The ORF1358 polynucleotides and ORF1358 polypeptides described herein may be obtained using standard cloning and screening techniques. The *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, and *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polynucleotides may be obtained, for example, from genomic DNA, from a cDNA library derived from mRNA, from a genomic DNA library, or can be synthesized using well known and commercially available techniques, such as e.g. by PCR from a cDNA library or via RT-PCR (reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction).

The term “recombinant” means, for example, that a polynucleotide is made by an artificial combination of two otherwise separated polynucleotide segments, e.g., by chemical synthesis or by the manipulation of isolated polynucleotides using genetic engineering techniques. A “recombinant DNA construct” comprises any of the isolated polynucleotides of the present invention operably linked to at least one regulatory element.

In one embodiment, the invention provides an isolated polypeptide that comprises the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:13. The amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:13 is the consensus sequence obtained after aligning the amino acid sequences encoded by the *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, and *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polynucleotide sequences ORF1358 and set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, and SEQ ID NO:32.

In one embodiment, the invention provides isolated polynucleotides encoding polypeptides comprising SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32, or fragments thereof. Encompassed herein are polynucleotides that differ from the polynucleotide sequences shown in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31 due to degeneracy of the genetic code. These polynucleotides encode polypeptides comprising the same function as the polypeptide encoded by *Streptococcus pyogenes* ORF1358. The polypeptides may comprise zinc binding activity.

Orthologues and allelic variants of the *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, and *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polynucleotides can readily be identified using methods well known in the art. Allelic variants and

orthologues of the ORF1358 polynucleotides can comprise a nucleotide sequence that is typically at least about 90-95% or more identical to any one or more of the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31, or a fragments thereof. The allelic variants and orthologues of ORF1358 polynucleotides can encode a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 90%, 95%, or 97.5% identical to the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32. Such polynucleotides can readily be identified as being able to hybridize under stringent conditions, to at least a fragment from any one or more of the polynucleotides having the nucleotide sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, or SEQ ID NO:11, or a fragment thereof.

Moreover, the allelic variants and orthologues of ORF1358 polynucleotides can comprise only a fragment of the coding region of a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, and *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polynucleotide or gene, such as a fragment of a polynucleotide set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, or SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31. In certain embodiments, such fragments encode immunogenic fragments.

It is well understood by one skilled in the art that many levels of sequence identity are useful in identifying related polynucleotides and polypeptides. Sequence alignments and percent identity calculations were performed using the Megalign program of the LASERGENE bioinformatics computing suite (DNASTAR Inc., Madison, Wis.). Multiple alignment of the sequences was performed using the Clustal method of alignment (Higgins and Sharp (1989) CABIOS. 5:151-153) with the default parameters (GAP PENALTY=10, GAP LENGTH PENALTY=10). Default parameters for pairwise alignments using the Clustal method were KTUPLE 1, GAP PENALTY=3, WINDOW=5 and DIAGONALS SAVED=5. Sequence alignments were also performed using BLAST (Altschul SF, Madden TL, Schaffer A A, et al. Gapped BLAST and PSI-BLAST: a new generation of protein database search programs. *Nucleic Acids Research*. Sep. 1, 1997; 25(17):3389-3402).

The ORF1358 polynucleotides of the invention may be used, for example, for the production of recombinant polypeptides for inclusion in immunogenic compositions. For the production of recombinant polypeptides, the polynucleotide may include the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide, by itself, or the coding sequence for the mature polypeptide linked with other coding sequences, such as those encoding a leader or secretory sequence, a pre-, or pro- or prepro-protein sequence, or other fusion peptide portions. For example, a marker sequence which facilitates purification of the fused polypeptide can be linked to the coding sequence (see Gentz et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 86:821-824, 1989). The polynucleotide may also contain sequences 5' and/or 3' of the coding sequence, such as transcribed sequences, non-translated sequences, splicing signals, and polyadenylation signals.

In certain embodiments, the polynucleotide sequence information provided herein allows for the preparation of relatively short DNA (or RNA) oligonucleotide sequences

having the ability to specifically hybridize to nucleotide sequences of the selected polynucleotides disclosed herein. The term "oligonucleotide" as used herein is defined as a molecule comprising two or more deoxyribonucleotides or ribonucleotides, usually more than three (3), and typically more than ten (10) and up to one hundred (100) or more (although preferably between twenty and thirty). The exact size will depend on many factors, which in turn depends on the ultimate function or use of the oligonucleotide. Thus, in some embodiments, nucleic acid probes of an appropriate length are prepared based on a selected nucleotide sequence, e.g., a sequence such as that shown in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31. The ability of such nucleic acid probes to specifically hybridize to a polynucleotide encoding a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide lends them particular utility in a variety of embodiments. In some embodiments, the probes can be used in a variety of assays for detecting the presence of complementary sequences in a given sample. These primers may be generated in any manner, including chemical synthesis, DNA replication, reverse transcription, or a combination thereof. The sequence of such primers is designed using a polynucleotide described herein for use in detecting, amplifying or mutating a defined segment of a polynucleotide that encodes a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide from prokaryotic cells using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) technology.

In some embodiments, the polynucleotides described herein may be used in combination with an appropriate label for detecting hybrid formation. A wide variety of appropriate labels are known in the art, including radioactive, enzymatic, or other ligands, such as avidin/biotin, which are capable of giving a detectable signal.

Polynucleotides which are identical or sufficiently identical to a nucleotide sequence contained in one of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, SEQ ID NO:31, and SEQ ID NO:14 through SEQ ID NO:21, or a fragment thereof, may be used as hybridization probes for cDNA and genomic DNA, or as primers for a nucleic acid amplification (PCR) reaction, to isolate full-length cDNAs and genomic clones encoding polypeptides described herein and to isolate cDNA and genomic clones of other genes (including genes encoding homologs and orthologs from species other than *Streptococcus dysgalactiae*) that have a high sequence similarity to the polynucleotide sequences set forth in of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, and SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31, or a fragment thereof. Typically these nucleotide sequences are from at least about 90% identical to at least about 99% identical to that of the reference polynucleotide sequence. The probes or primers will generally comprise at least 15 nucleotides, at least 30 nucleotides or at least 50 nucleotides.

There are several methods available and well known to those skilled in the art to obtain full-length cDNAs, or extend short cDNAs. For example those methods based on the method of Rapid Amplification of cDNA ends (RACE) (See Frohman et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 85, 8998-9002,

1988). Modifications of this technique, exemplified by the Marathon™ technology (Clontech, Mountain View, Calif.) for example, have significantly simplified the search for longer cDNAs. In the Marathon™ technology, cDNAs are prepared from mRNA extracted from a chosen tissue and an “adaptor” sequence ligated onto each end. Nucleic acid amplification (PCR) is then carried out to amplify the “missing” 5' end of the cDNA using a combination of gene specific and adaptor specific oligonucleotide primers. The PCR reaction is then repeated using “nested” primers, that is, primers designed to anneal within the amplified product (typically an adaptor specific primer that anneals further 3' in the adaptor sequence and a gene specific primer that anneals further 5' in the known gene sequence). The products of this reaction can then be analyzed by DNA sequencing and a full-length cDNA constructed either by joining the product directly to the existing cDNA to give a complete sequence, or carrying out a separate full-length PCR using the new sequence information for the design of the 5' primer.

In one embodiment, the present invention provides isolated and purified *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides for use in immunogenic compositions. An ORF1358 polypeptide used in an immunogenic composition of the invention may be a recombinant polypeptide.

A *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide used in an immunogenic composition of the present invention encompasses a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32, or a fragment thereof; functional and non-functional naturally occurring variants or biological equivalents of said polypeptides; recombinantly produced variants or biological equivalents of said polypeptides; orthologues, or allelic variants of said polypeptides.

Biological equivalents or variants of *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 include both functional and non-functional *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides. Functional biological equivalents or variants include naturally occurring amino acid sequence variants of a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide that maintains the ability to elicit an immunological or antigenic response in a subject. Functional variants typically contain conservative substitutions of one or more amino acids of one or more of SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32; or substitutions, deletions or insertions of non-critical residues in non-critical regions of the polypeptide.

In some embodiments, modifications and changes can be made in the structure of a polypeptide of the present invention and still obtain a molecule having the same antigenicity as the

unchanged *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide. For example, certain amino acids can be substituted for other amino acids in a sequence without appreciable loss of antigenicity. Because it is the interactive capacity and nature of a polypeptide that defines that polypeptide's biological functional activity, certain amino acid sequence substitutions can be made in a polypeptide sequence (or its underlying DNA coding sequence) and nevertheless obtain a polypeptide with like properties.

In making changes to obtain orthologues or allelic variants, the hydrophobic index of amino acids can be considered. The importance of the hydrophobic amino acid index in conferring interactive biologic function on a polypeptide is generally understood in the art (Kyte and Doolittle, J Mol Biol, 157: p. 105-132, 1982). It is known that certain amino acids can be substituted for other amino acids having a similar hydrophobic index or score and still result in a polypeptide with similar biological activity. Each amino acid has been assigned a hydrophobic index on the basis of its hydrophobicity and charge characteristics. Those indices are: isoleucine (+4.5); valine (+4.2); leucine (+3.8); phenylalanine (+2.8); cysteine/cystine (+2.5); methionine (+1.9); alanine (+1.8); glycine (-0.4); threonine (-0.7); serine (-0.8); tryptophan (-0.9); tyrosine (-1.3); proline (-1.6); histidine (-3.2); glutamate (-3.5); glutamine (-3.5); aspartate (-3.5); asparagine (-3.5); lysine (-3.9); and arginine (-4.5).

It is generally accepted in the art that the relative hydrophobic character of the amino acid residue determines the secondary and tertiary structure of the resultant polypeptide, which in turn defines the interaction of the polypeptide with other molecules, such as enzymes, substrates, receptors, antibodies, antigens, and the like. It is known in the art that an amino acid can be substituted by another amino acid having a similar hydrophobic index and still obtain a functionally equivalent polypeptide. In some embodiments, polynucleotides encoding ORF1358 polypeptide may comprise substituted amino acids whose hydrophobic indices are within +/-2. In some embodiments, the hydrophobic indices are within +/-1, and some embodiments, the hydrophobic indices are within +/-0.5.

Substitution of like amino acids can also be made on the basis of hydrophilicity, particularly where the biological functional equivalent polypeptide or peptide thereby created is intended for use in immunological embodiments. U.S. Pat. No. 4,554,101, incorporated hereinafter by reference, states that the greatest local average hydrophilicity of a polypeptide, as governed by the hydrophilicity of its adjacent amino acids, correlates with its immunogenicity and antigenicity.

A “variant,” as the term is used herein is a polynucleotide or a polypeptide that differs from a reference polynucleotide or reference polypeptide respectively, while retaining at least one essential property. A typical variant of a polynucleotide differs in nucleotide sequence from a reference polynucleotide. Changes in the nucleotide sequence of the variant may or may not alter the amino acid sequence of a polypeptide encoded by the reference polynucleotide. Nucleotide changes may result in amino acid substitutions, additions, deletions, fusions and truncations in the polypeptide encoded by the reference polynucleotide, as discussed below. A typical variant of a polypeptide differs in amino acid sequence from a reference polypeptide. Generally, differences are limited so that the sequences of the reference polypeptide and the variant polypeptide are closely similar overall and, in many regions, identical. A variant polypeptide and its reference

polypeptide may differ in amino acid sequence by one or more substitutions, additions, or deletions, in any combination. A substituted or inserted amino acid residue may or may not be one encoded by the genetic code. A variant of a polynucleotide or polypeptide may be naturally occurring such as an allelic variant, or it may be a variant that is not known to occur naturally. Non-naturally occurring variants of polynucleotides and polypeptides may be made by mutagenesis techniques or by direct synthesis.

For recombinant production of polypeptides, host cells are genetically engineered to incorporate expression systems, portions thereof, or polynucleotides of the invention. Polynucleotides comprising ORF1358 can be introduced into host cells e.g. by methods described in many standard laboratory manuals, such as Davis et al., BASIC METHODS IN MOLECULAR BIOLOGY (1986) and Sambrook et al., MOLECULAR CLONING: A LABORATORY MANUAL, 2nd ed., Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y. (1989). These methods include e.g. calcium phosphate transfection, DEAE-dextran mediated transfection, transvection, microinjection, ultrasound, cationic lipid-mediated transfection, electroporation, transduction, scrape loading, ballistic introduction, and infection.

Representative examples of suitable host cells include bacterial cells (e.g., streptococci, staphylococci, *E. coli*, *Streptomyces* and *Bacillus subtilis* cells), yeast cells (e.g., *Pichia*, *Saccharomyces*), mammalian cells (e.g., vero, Chinese hamster ovary, chick embryo fibroblasts, BHK cells, human SW13 cells), and insect cells (e.g., Sf9, Sf21).

The recombinantly-produced polypeptides may be recovered and purified from recombinant cell cultures by well-known methods, including high performance liquid chromatography, ammonium sulfate or ethanol precipitation, acid extraction, anion or cation exchange chromatography, phosphocellulose chromatography, hydrophobic interaction chromatography, affinity chromatography, hydroxylapatite chromatography, and lectin chromatography.

Any one or more systems may be used to express and produce the *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides in a heterologous cell system. Such systems include, among others, chromosomal, episomal and virus-derived systems. Vectors may be derived from bacterial plasmids, attenuated bacteria, bacteriophage, transposons, yeast episomes, insertion elements, yeast chromosomal elements, or viruses. Vectors may be obtained from viruses such as vaccinia and other poxviruses, sindbis, adenovirus, baculoviruses, papova viruses (such as SV40), fowl pox viruses, pseudorabies viruses, retroviruses, alphaviruses (such as Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (U.S. Pat. No. 5,643,576)), nonsegmented negative-stranded RNA viruses such as vesicular stomatitis virus (U.S. Pat. No. 6,168,943). Vectors may also be derived from combinations thereof, such as those derived from plasmid and bacteriophage genetic elements, such as cosmids and phagemids. The expression systems should include control regions that regulate as well as engender expression, such as promoters and other regulatory elements (such as a polyadenylation signal). Generally, any system or vector suitable to maintain, propagate or express polynucleotides to produce a polypeptide in a host may be used. The appropriate nucleotide sequence may be inserted into an expression system by any of a variety of well-known and routine techniques, such as, for example, those set forth in Sambrook et al., MOLECULAR CLONING, A LABORATORY MANUAL (supra).

In one embodiment, the present invention provides expression vectors expressing *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides for use in immunogenic compositions. The expression vectors comprise ORF1358 polynucleotides encoding polypeptides comprising an amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:26, SEQ ID NO:28, SEQ ID NO:30, Or SEQ ID NO:32, or a fragment thereof. Alternatively, the expression vectors comprise a polynucleotide comprising a nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:27, SEQ ID NO:29, or SEQ ID NO:31, or a fragment thereof. In other embodiments, the expression vectors of the invention comprise a polynucleotide operatively linked to an enhancer-promoter. In still other embodiments, the expression vectors comprise a polynucleotide operatively linked to a prokaryotic promoter. Alternatively, the expression vectors comprise a polynucleotide operatively linked to an enhancer-promoter that is a eukaryotic promoter. The expression vectors further may comprise a polyadenylation signal that is positioned 3' of the carboxy-terminal amino acid and within a transcriptional unit of the encoded polypeptide.

"Coding sequence" refers to a nucleotide sequence that codes for a specific amino acid sequence. "Regulatory sequences" refer to nucleotide sequences located upstream (5' non-coding sequences), within, or downstream (3' non-coding sequences) of a coding sequence, and which influence the transcription, RNA processing or stability, or translation of the associated coding sequence. Regulatory sequences may include promoters, translation leader sequences, introns, and polyadenylation recognition sequences.

"Promoter" refers to a nucleotide sequence capable of controlling the expression of a coding sequence or functional RNA. In general, a coding sequence is located 3' to a promoter sequence. The promoter sequence consists of proximal and more distal upstream elements, the latter elements often referred to as enhancers. Accordingly, an "enhancer" is a nucleotide sequence which can stimulate promoter activity and may be an innate element of the promoter or a heterologous element inserted to enhance the level or tissue-specificity of a promoter. Promoters may be derived in their entirety from a native gene, or may be composed of different elements derived from different promoters found in nature, or may even comprise synthetic nucleotide segments. It is understood by those skilled in the art that different promoters may direct the expression of a gene in different tissues or cell types, or at different stages of development, or in response to different environmental conditions. Promoters that cause a nucleic acid fragment to be expressed in most cell types at most times are commonly referred to as "constitutive promoters". It is further recognized that since in most cases the exact boundaries of regulatory sequences have not been completely defined, nucleic acid fragments of different lengths may have identical promoter activity.

Commonly used promoters are derived from viruses such as polyoma, Adenovirus 2, cytomegalovirus, and Simian Virus 40. For other suitable expression systems for both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells see chapters 16 and 17 of Sambrook et al., "Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual" 2nd, ed, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1989, incorporated hereinafter by reference. In certain instances, the

expression vector is capable of directing expression of the nucleic acid preferentially in a particular cell type (e.g., tissue-specific regulatory elements are used to express the nucleic acid). Tissue-specific regulatory elements are known in the art. Non-limiting examples of suitable tissue-specific promoters include the albumin promoter (liver-specific; Pinkert et al., *Genes Dev*, 1: p. 268-277, 1987), lymphoid-specific promoters (Calame and Eaton, *Adv Immunol*, 43: p. 235-275, 1988), in particular, promoters of T cell receptors (Winoto and Baltimore, *EMBO J*, 8: p. 729-733, 1989) and immunoglobulins (Banerji et al., *Cell*, 33: p. 729-740, 1983), (Queen and Baltimore, *Cell*, 33: p. 741-748, 1983), neuron-specific promoters (e.g., the neurofilament promoter; Byrne and Ruddle, *PNAS*, 86: p. 5473-5477, 1989), pancreas-specific promoters (Edlund et al., *Science*, 230: p. 912-916, 1985), and mammary gland-specific promoters (e.g., milk whey promoter; U.S. Pat. No. 4,873,316 and International Application EP 264,166). Developmentally-regulated promoters are also encompassed, for example the murine hox promoters (Kessel and Gruss, *Science*, 249: p. 374-379, 1990) and the α -feto-protein promoter (Campes and Tilghman, *Genes Dev*, 3: p. 537-546, 1989).

Also provided herein are recombinant expression vectors comprising polynucleotides encoding at least a portion of a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides cloned into the expression vector in an antisense orientation. That is, the DNA molecule is operatively linked to a regulatory sequence in a manner which allows for expression (by transcription of the DNA molecule) of an RNA molecule which is antisense to the *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide mRNA. Regulatory sequences operatively linked to a nucleic acid cloned in the antisense orientation can be chosen which direct the continuous expression of the antisense RNA molecule in a variety of cell types. For instance viral promoters and/or enhancers, or regulatory sequences can be chosen which direct constitutive, tissue specific or cell type specific expression of antisense RNA. The antisense expression vector can be in the form of a recombinant plasmid, phagemid or attenuated virus in which antisense nucleic acids are produced under the control of a high efficiency regulatory region, the activity of which can be determined by the cell type into which the vector is introduced.

The recombinant expression vectors described herein may be inserted into any suitable host cell. The terms "host cell" and "recombinant host cell" are used interchangeably herein. It is understood that such terms refer not only to the particular subject cell, but also to the progeny or potential progeny of such a cell. Because certain modifications may occur in succeeding generations due to either mutation or environmental influences, such progeny may not, in fact, be identical to the parent cell, but are still included within the scope of the term as used herein. A host cell can be any prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell. For example, a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide can be expressed in bacterial cells (such as *E. coli*), insect cells (such as Sf9, Sf21), yeast cells, or mammalian cells (such as Chinese hamster ovary cells (CHO), VERO, chick embryo fibroblasts, BHK cells or COS cells). Other suitable host cells are known to those skilled in the art.

Vector DNA is introduced into prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells via conventional transformation, infection or transfection techniques. As used herein, the terms "transformation" and "transfection" are intended to refer to a variety of art-recognized techniques for introducing foreign nucleic acid (e.g., DNA) into a host cell, including calcium phosphate or calcium chloride co-precipitation, DEAE-dextran-mediated transfection, lipofection, ultrasound or electroporation. Suitable methods for transforming or transfecting host cells can be found, for example, in Sambrook, et al. ("*Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*" 2nd, ed, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press, Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., 1989), and other laboratory manuals.

A host cell described herein, such as a prokaryotic or a eukaryotic host cell in culture, is used to produce (i.e., express) a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide. Accordingly, also described herein are methods for producing a polypeptide using such host cells. In one embodiment, the method comprises culturing the host cell (into which a recombinant expression vector encoding an ORF1358 polypeptide has been introduced) in a suitable medium until the polypeptide is produced. In another embodiment, the method further comprises isolating the ORF1358 polypeptide from the medium or the host cell.

Expression of polypeptides in prokaryotes is most often carried out in *E. coli* with vectors containing constitutive or inducible promoters directing the expression of either fusion or non-fusion proteins. Constitutive promoters include, for example, lambda PL, spc ribosomal and beta-lactamase. Inducible promoters include, for example, arabinose, lac, tac and maltose binding protein. Fusion vectors add a number of amino acids to a protein encoded therein, usually to the amino terminus of the recombinant protein. Such fusion vectors typically serve three purposes: to increase expression of recombinant protein; to increase the solubility of the recombinant protein; and to aid in the purification of the recombinant protein by acting as a ligand in affinity purification. Often, in fusion expression vectors, a proteolytic cleavage site is introduced at the junction of the fusion moiety and the recombinant protein to enable separation of the recombinant protein from the fusion moiety subsequent to purification of the fusion protein. Such enzymes, and their cognate recognition sequences, include Factor Xa, thrombin and enterokinase. The invention also provides vectors (e.g., expression vectors, sequencing vectors, cloning vectors) which comprise at least one polynucleotide of the invention, host cells which are genetically engineered with vectors of the invention, and production of polypeptides of the invention by recombinant techniques. Cell-free translation systems can also be employed to produce such proteins using RNAs derived from the DNA constructs of the invention.

Expression vectors useful to express *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides are viral vectors, such as lentiviruses, retroviruses, herpes viruses, adenoviruses, adeno-associated viruses, vaccinia virus, baculovirus, and other recombinant viruses with desirable cellular tropism. Thus, a gene encoding a functional or mutant protein or polypeptide, or fragment thereof can be introduced in vivo, ex vivo, or in vitro using a viral vector or through direct introduction of DNA. Expression in targeted tissues can be effected by targeting the transgenic vector to specific cells, such as with a viral vector or a

receptor ligand, or by using a tissue-specific promoter, or both. Targeted gene delivery is described in PCT Publication Number WO 95/28494.

Viral vectors commonly used for in vivo or ex vivo targeting and therapy procedures are DNA-based vectors and retroviral vectors. Methods for constructing and using viral vectors are known in the art (e.g., Miller and Rosman, *BioTechniques*, 1992, 7:980-990). Preferably, the viral vectors are replication-defective, that is, they are unable to replicate autonomously in the target cell. Preferably, the replication defective virus is a minimal virus, i.e., it retains only the sequences of its genome, which are necessary for encapsulating the genome to produce viral particles.

DNA viral vectors include an attenuated or defective DNA virus, such as, for example, herpes simplex virus (HSV), papillomavirus, Epstein Barr virus (EBV), adenovirus, adeno-associated virus (AAV), and the like. Defective viruses, which entirely or almost entirely lack viral genes, are preferred. A defective virus is not infective after introduction into a cell. Use of defective viral vectors allows for administration to cells in a specific, localized area, without concern that the vector can infect other cells. Thus, a specific tissue can be specifically targeted. Examples of particular vectors include, but are not limited to, a defective herpes virus 1 (HSV1) vector (Kaplitt et al., *Molec. Cell. Neurosci.*, 1991, 2:320-330), defective herpes virus vector lacking a glycoprotein L gene, or other defective herpes virus vectors (PCT Publication Numbers WO 94/21807 and WO 92/05263); an attenuated adenovirus vector, such as the vector described by Stratford-Perricaudet et al. (*J. Clin. Invest.*, 1992, 90:626-630; see also La Salle et al., *Science*, 1993, 259:988-990); and a defective adeno-associated virus vector (Samulski et al., *J. Virol.*, 1987, 61:3096-3101; Samulski et al., *J. Virol.*, 1989, 63:3822-3828; Lebkowski et al., *Mol. Cell. Biol.*, 1988, 8:3988-3996).

The polypeptides of the invention, including those comprising the amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:12, or SEQ ID NO:13, their fragments, and analogs thereof, or cells expressing them, can also be used as immunogens to produce antibodies immunospecific for the polypeptides of the invention. The invention includes antibodies immunospecific for *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides, the use of such antibodies to detect the presence of, or measure the quantity or concentration of *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides in a cell, a cell or tissue extract, or a biological fluid, or for treatment of *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* infection.

The antibodies of the invention include polyclonal antibodies, monoclonal antibodies, chimeric antibodies, and anti-idiotypic antibodies. Polyclonal antibodies are heterogeneous populations of antibody molecules derived from the sera of animals immunized with an antigen. Monoclonal antibodies are a substantially homogeneous population of antibodies to specific antigens. In general, antibodies can be made, for example, using traditional hybridoma techniques (Kohler and Milstein *Nature*, 256: 495-499, 1975), recombinant DNA methods (U.S. Pat. No. 4,816,567), or phage dis-

play using antibody libraries (Clackson et al. *Nature* 352: 624-628, 1991; Marks et al. *J. Mol. Biol.* 222: 581-597, 1991). For additional antibody production techniques, see *Antibodies: A Laboratory Manual*, eds. Harlow and Lane, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1988. The present invention is not limited to any particular source, method of production, or other special characteristics of an antibody.

Intact antibodies are immunoglobulins (Ig), and they typically are tetrameric glycosylated proteins composed of two light chains (~25 kDa each) and two heavy chains (~50 kDa each). Light chains are classified into two isotypes (A and K), and heavy chains are classified into five isotypes (A, D, E, G, and M). Some heavy chain isotypes are further divided into isotype subclasses, e.g., IgG₁, IgG₂, IgG₃, and IgG₄.

The domain and three dimensional structures of different antibodies are known in the art (Harlow and Lane, supra). In brief, the light chain is composed of a constant domain (C_L) and an N-terminal variable domain (V_L). The heavy chain is composed of three or four constant domains (C_H), a hinge region, and a N-terminal variable domain (V_H). The C_H adjacent to the V_H domain is designated C_{H1}. The V_H and V_L domains contain four regions of conserved sequence called framework (FR) regions (FR1, FR2, FR3, and FR4), which form a scaffold for three regions of hypervariable sequence called complementarity determining regions (CDR). The CDRs (CDR1, CDR2, and CDR3) contain most of the antibody amino acids that specifically recognize and bind antigen. Heavy chain CDRs are denoted H1, H2, and H3, while light chain CDRs are denoted L1, L2, and L3.

The Fab fragment (Fragment antigen-binding) consists of V_H-C_{H1} and V_L-C_L domains covalently linked by a disulfide bond between the constant regions. The F_v fragment is smaller and consists of V_H and V_L domains non-covalently linked. To overcome the tendency of non-covalently domains to dissociate, a single chain F_v fragment (scF_v) can be constructed. The scF_v contains a flexible polypeptide that links the (1) C-terminus of V_H to the N-terminus of V_L, or the (2) C-terminus of V_L to the N-terminus of V_H. A 15-mer (Gly₄Ser)₃ peptide may be used as a linker, but other linkers are known in the art.

Antibody diversity is created by use of multiple germline genes encoding variable regions and a variety of somatic events. The somatic events include recombination of variable gene segments and diversity (D) and joining (J) gene segments to make a complete V_H region and the recombination of variable and joining gene segments to make a complete V_L region. CDR3 (H3) is the greatest source of molecular diversity within an antibody sequence. H3, for example, can be as short as two amino acid residues or greater than 26. The smallest antigen-binding fragment is the F_v, which consists of the V_H and the V_L domains.

Anti-ORF1358 polypeptide antibodies of this invention may optionally comprise antibody constant regions or parts thereof. For example, a V_L domain may be attached at its C-terminal end to a light chain constant domain like C_κ or C_λ. Similarly, a V_H domain or portion thereof may be attached to all or part of a heavy chain like IgA, IgD, IgE, IgG, and IgM, and any isotype subclass. Antibody isotype such as IgG₁, IgG₂, IgG₃ or IgG₄ is determined by the CH₂ and CH₃ domains. Isotypes may be switched by changing these domains without affecting antigen binding. Constant regions are known in the art (see, for example, Kabat et al., *Sequences of Proteins of Immunological Interest*, No. 91-3242, National Institutes of Health Publications, Bethesda, Md., 1991).

Chimeric antibodies are molecules, different portions of which are derived from different animal species, such as those having variable region derived from a murine monoclonal

antibody and a human immunoglobulin constant region. Chimeric antibodies and methods for their production are known in the art (Cabilly et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 81:3273-3277, 1984; Morrison et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 81:6851-6855, 1984; Boulianne et al., Nature 312:643-646, 1984; Cabilly et al., European Patent Application No. 125023 (published Nov. 14, 1984); Taniguchi et al., European Patent Application No. 171496 (published Feb. 19, 1985); Morrison et al., European Patent Application No. 173494 (published Mar. 5, 1986); Neuberger et al., PCT Application No. WO 86/01533 (published Mar. 13, 1986); Kudo et al., European Patent Application No. 184187 (published Jun. 11, 1986); Morrison et al., European Patent Application No. 173494 (published Mar. 5, 1986); Sahagan et al., J. Immunol. 137:1066-1074, 1986; Robinson et al., PCT/US86/02269 (published May 7, 1987); Liu et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 84:3439-3443, 1987; Sun et al., Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 84:214-218, 1987; Better et al., Science 240:1041-1043, 1988).

An anti-idiotypic (anti-Id) antibody is an antibody that recognizes unique determinants generally associated with the antigen-binding site of an antibody. An anti-Id antibody is prepared by immunizing an animal of the same species and genetic type (e.g., mouse strain) as the source of the monoclonal antibody with the monoclonal antibody to which an anti-Id is being prepared. The immunized animal will recognize and respond to the idiotypic determinants of the immunizing antibody by producing an antibody to these isotypic determinants (the anti-Id antibody).

Accordingly, monoclonal antibodies generated against the polypeptides of the present invention may be used to induce anti-Id antibodies in suitable animals. Spleen cells from such immunized animals can be used to produce anti-Id hybridomas secreting anti-Id monoclonal antibodies. Further, the anti-Id antibodies can be coupled to a carrier such as keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH) and used to immunize additional BALB/c mice. Sera from these mice will contain anti-anti-Id antibodies that have the binding properties of the final mAb specific for a R-PTPase epitope. The anti-Id antibodies thus have their idiotypic epitopes, or "idiotopes" structurally similar to the epitope being evaluated, such as *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polypeptides encoded by ORF1358.

The term "antibody" is also meant to include both intact molecules as well as fragments such as Fab, which are capable of binding antigen. Fab fragments lack the Fc fragment of intact antibody, clear more rapidly from the circulation, and may have less non-specific tissue binding than an intact antibody (Wahl et al., J. Nucl. Med. 24:316-325, 1983). It will be appreciated that Fab and other fragments of the antibodies useful in the present invention may be used for the detection and quantitation of *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polypeptides according to the methods for intact antibody molecules.

The anti-Id antibody may also be used as an "immunogen" to induce an immune response in yet another animal, producing a so-called anti-anti-Id antibody. The anti-anti-Id may be epitopically identical to the original mAb which induced the anti-Id. Thus, by using antibodies to the idiotypic determinants of a mAb, it is possible to identify other clones expressing antibodies of identical specificity.

The antibodies may be used in a variety of ways, e.g., for confirmation that a protein is expressed, or to confirm where

a protein is expressed. Labeled antibody (e.g., fluorescent labeling for FACS) can be incubated with intact bacteria and the presence of the label on the bacterial surface confirms the location of the protein.

5 Other suitable methods of producing or isolating antibodies that specifically bind to a Group C or Group G streptococcal ORF1358 polypeptide epitope can be used. In some embodiments, the recombinant antibody is selected from a peptide or protein display library such as e.g. a bacteriophage, ribosome, oligonucleotide, RNA and cDNA display libraries (EP368,684; PCT/GB91/01134; PCT/GB92/01755; PCT/GB92/002240; PCT/GB92/00883; PCT/GB93/00605; PCT/GB94/01422; PCT/GB94/02662; PCT/GB97/01835; WO90/14443; WO90/14424; WO90/14430; PCT/US94/1234; WO92/18619; WO96/07754; EP614,989; WO95/16027; WO88/06630; WO90/3809; U.S. Pat. No. 4,704,692; PCT/US91/02989; WO89/06283; EP371,998; EP550,400; EP229,046; and PCT/US91/07149.) In other embodiments, the recombinant antibody is selected from a library of stochastically generated peptides or proteins (U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,723,323; 5,763,192; 5,814,476; 5,817,483; 5,824,514; 5,976,862; WO 86/05803; and EP 590,689.) In yet other embodiments, the recombinant antibody is produced in a transgenic animal that is capable of producing a repertoire of human antibodies (Nguyen et al., Microbiol. Immunol. 41:901-907, 1997; Sandhu et al., Crit. Rev. Biotechnol. 16:95-118, 1996; and Eren et al., Immunol. 93:154-161, 1998.) Other techniques for producing recombinant antibodies include e.g. single cell antibody producing technologies such as the selected lymphocyte antibody method ("SLAM") (U.S. Pat. No. 5,627,052), gel microdroplet and flow cytometry methods (Powell et al., Biotechnol. 8:333-337, 1990), and B-cell selection (Steenbakkers et al., Molec. Biol. Reports 19:125-134, 1994). These same methods can also be deployed to improve the affinity and/or avidity of an anti-Group C or Group G streptococcal PPI antibody to its specific binding target.

The present invention provides immunogenic compositions comprising one or more *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polypeptides encoded by ORF1358. In certain embodiments, the immunogenic compositions comprise one or more *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* polypeptides comprising an amino acid residue sequence that is at least 97.5%, 98%, 99%, or 100% identical to SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 26, 28, 30, and 32, and one or more physiologically acceptable carriers.

In other embodiments, the immunogenic compositions of the invention comprise polynucleotides that encode the *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides, and one or more physiologically acceptable carriers. In some embodiments, the immunogenic compositions comprise polynucleotides having a nucleotide sequence that is at least 90%, 95%, 99%, or 100% identical to one or more of SEQ ID NOs: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 25, 27, 29, or 31.

The term "immunogenic composition" as used herein refers to any type of biological agent in an administratable form capable of stimulating an immune response in an animal (which includes human) inoculated with the immunogenic composition. An immune response may include induction of antibodies and/or induction of a T-cell response. Herein, the

term "protection," when used in reference to an immunogenic composition, refers to the amelioration (either partial or complete) of any of the symptoms associated with the disease or condition in question. Thus, protection of animals from *Streptococcus* or infection by a *Streptococcus* species such as *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* by the present immunogenic compositions generally results in a diminishing of bacterial growth and/or one or more of the clinical symptoms associated with infection by *Streptococcus* species, including arthritis, endocarditis, meningitis, polyserositis, bronchopneumonia, meningitis, permanent hearing loss, and septic shock.

The methods disclosed herein may include inducing an immune response against one or more pathogens that include a species of *Streptococcus* (e.g., *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis*). For example, the methods may include inducing polyclonal antibodies against one or more pathogens that include a species of *Streptococcus* that may include *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis*. In some embodiments, the methods include administering to a subject (any vertebrate, including human patients and other mammals) a composition that includes an isolated *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide or polynucleotide.

Various tests are used to assess the in vitro immunogenicity of the polypeptides of the invention. For example, an in vitro opsonic assay is conducted by incubating together a mixture of *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* cells, heat inactivated serum containing specific antibodies to the polypeptide in question, and an exogenous complement source. Opsonophagocytosis proceeds during incubation of freshly isolated polymorphonuclear cells (PMN's) and the antibody/complement/*Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* cell mixture. Bacterial cells that are coated with antibody and complement are killed upon opsonophagocytosis. Colony forming units (cfu) of surviving bacteria that escape from opsonophagocytosis are determined by plating the assay mixture. Titers are reported as the reciprocal of the highest dilution that gives 50% bacterial killing, as determined by comparison to assay controls. Specimens that demonstrate less than 50% killing at the lowest serum dilution tested (1:8), are reported as having an OPA (opsonophagocytosis antibody) titer of 4. The highest dilution tested is 1:2560. Samples with $\geq 50\%$ killing at the highest dilution are repeated, beginning with a higher initial dilution. The method described above is a modification of Gray's method (Gray, Conjugate Vaccines Supplement, p. 694-697, 1990). A test serum control, which contains test serum plus bacterial cells and heat inactivated complement, is included for each individual serum. This control is used to assess whether the presence of antibiotics or other serum components are capable of killing the bacterial strain directly (i.e. in the absence of complement or PMN's). A human serum with known opsonic titer is used

as a positive human serum control. The opsonic antibody titer for each unknown serum is calculated as the reciprocal of the initial dilution of serum giving 50% cfu reduction compared to the control without serum.

A whole cell ELISA assay is also used to assess in vitro immunogenicity and surface exposure of the polypeptide antigen, wherein the bacterial strain of interest is coated onto a plate, such as a 96 well plate, and test sera from an immunized animal is reacted with the bacterial cells. If any antibody, specific for the test polypeptide antigen, is reactive with a surface exposed epitope of the polypeptide antigen, it can be detected by standard methods known to one skilled in the art.

Any polypeptide demonstrating the desired in vitro activity may then be tested in an in vivo animal challenge model. In certain embodiments, immunogenic compositions are used in the immunization of an animal (e.g., a mouse) by methods and routes of immunization known to those of skill in the art (e.g., intranasal, parenteral, intramuscular, oral, rectal, vaginal, transdermal, intraperitoneal, intravenous, subcutaneous, etc.). Following immunization of the animal with a particular *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* immunogenic composition, the animal is challenged with the same or other streptococcal species and assayed for resistance to the same or other *Streptococcus* spp. infection.

The *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptides and polynucleotides are incorporated into immunogenic compositions suitable for administration to a subject, e.g., a human. Such compositions typically comprise the nucleic acid molecule or protein, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier. As used hereinafter the language "pharmaceutically acceptable carrier" is intended to include any and all solvents, dispersion media, coatings, antibacterial and antifungal agents, isotonic and absorption delaying agents, excipients and the like, compatible with pharmaceutical administration. The use of such media and agents for pharmaceutically active substances is well known in the art. Except insofar as any conventional media or agent is incompatible with the active compound, such media can be used in the compositions of the invention. Supplementary active compounds can also be incorporated into the compositions.

An immunogenic composition of the invention is formulated to be compatible with its intended route of administration. Examples of routes of administration include parenteral (e.g., intramuscular, intravenous, intradermal, subcutaneous, intraperitoneal), transmucosal (e.g., oral, rectal, intranasal, vaginal, respiratory) and transdermal (topical). Solutions or suspensions used for parenteral, intradermal, or subcutaneous application can include the following components: a sterile diluent such as water for injection, saline solution, fixed oils, polyethylene glycols, glycerine, propylene glycol or other synthetic solvents; antibacterial agents such as benzyl alcohol or methyl parabens; antioxidants such as ascorbic acid or sodium bisulfite; chelating agents such as ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid; buffers such as acetates, citrates or phosphates and agents for the adjustment of tonicity such as sodium chloride or dextrose. pH can be adjusted with acids or bases, such as hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide. The parenteral preparation can be enclosed in ampoules, disposable syringes or multiple dose vials made of glass or plastic.

Pharmaceutical compositions suitable for injectable use include sterile aqueous solutions (where water soluble) or

dispersions and sterile powders for the extemporaneous preparation of sterile injectable solutions or dispersion. For intravenous administration, suitable carriers include physiological saline, bacteriostatic water, Cremophor EL™ (BASF, Parsippany, N.J.) or phosphate buffered saline (PBS). In all cases, the composition must be sterile and should be fluid to the extent that easy syringability exists. It must be stable under the conditions of manufacture and storage and must be preserved against the contaminating action of microorganisms such as bacteria and fungi. The carrier can be a solvent or dispersion medium containing, for example, water, ethanol, polyol (for example, glycerol, propylene glycol, and liquid polyethylene glycol, and the like), and suitable mixtures thereof. The proper fluidity can be maintained, for example, by the use of a coating such as lecithin, by the maintenance of the required particle size in the case of dispersion and by the use of surfactants. Prevention of the action of microorganisms can be achieved by various antibacterial and antifungal agents, for example, parabens, chlorbutanol, phenol, ascorbic acid, and the like. In many cases, isotonic agents are included, for example, sugars, polyalcohols such as manitol, sorbitol, sodium chloride in the composition. Prolonged absorption of the injectable compositions can be brought about by including in the composition an agent which delays absorption, for example, aluminum monostearate and gelatin.

Sterile injectable solutions can be prepared by incorporating the active compound (e.g., a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide or antibody thereto) in the required amount in an appropriate solvent with one or a combination of ingredients enumerated above, as required, followed by filtered sterilization. Generally, dispersions are prepared by incorporating the active compound into a sterile vehicle that contains a basic dispersion medium and the required other ingredients from those enumerated above. In the case of sterile powders for the preparation of sterile injectable solutions, the preferred methods of preparation are vacuum drying and freeze-drying which yields a powder of the active ingredient plus any additional desired ingredient from a previously sterile-filtered solution thereof.

Oral compositions generally include an inert diluent or an edible carrier. They can be enclosed in gelatin capsules or compressed into tablets. For the purpose of oral therapeutic administration, the active compound can be incorporated with excipients and used in the form of tablets, troches, or capsules. Oral compositions can also be prepared using a fluid carrier for use as a mouthwash, wherein the compound in the fluid carrier is applied orally and swished and expectorated or swallowed. Pharmaceutically compatible binding agents, and/or adjuvant materials can be included as part of the composition. The tablets, pills, capsules, troches and the like can contain any of the following ingredients, or compounds of a similar nature: a binder such as microcrystalline cellulose, gum tragacanth or gelatin; an excipient such as starch or lactose, a disintegrating agent such as alginic acid, Primogel, or corn starch; a lubricant such as magnesium stearate or Sterotes; a glidant such as colloidal silicon dioxide; a sweetening agent such as sucrose or saccharin; or a flavoring agent such as peppermint, methyl salicylate, or orange flavoring.

For administration by inhalation, the compounds are delivered in the form of an aerosol spray from pressured container or dispenser that contains a suitable propellant, e.g., a gas such as carbon dioxide, or a nebulizer. Systemic administration can also be by transmucosal or transdermal means. For

transmucosal or transdermal administration, penetrants appropriate to the barrier to be permeated are used in the formulation. Such penetrants are generally known in the art, and include, for example, for transmucosal administration, detergents, bile salts, and fusidic acid derivatives. Transmucosal administration can be accomplished through the use of nasal sprays or suppositories. For transdermal administration, the active compounds are formulated into ointments, salves, gels, or creams as generally known in the art.

The compounds can also be prepared in the form of suppositories (e.g., with conventional suppository bases such as cocoa butter and other glycerides) or retention enemas for rectal delivery.

In one embodiment, the active compounds are prepared with carriers that will protect the compound against rapid elimination from the body, such as a controlled release formulation, including implants and microencapsulated delivery systems.

Biodegradable, biocompatible polymers can be used, such as ethylene vinyl acetate, polyanhydrides, polyglycolic acid, collagen, polyorthoesters, and polylactic acid. Methods for preparation of such formulations will be apparent to those skilled in the art. The materials can also be obtained commercially from Alza Corporation (Mountain View, Calif.) and Nova Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (Baltimore, Md.). Liposomal suspensions (including liposomes targeted to infected cells with monoclonal antibodies to viral antigens) can also be used as pharmaceutically acceptable carriers. These can be prepared according to methods known to those skilled in the art, for example, as described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,522,811.

It is advantageous to formulate oral or parenteral compositions in dosage unit form for ease of administration and uniformity of dosage. Dosage unit form as used herein refers to physically discrete units suited as unitary dosages for the subject to be treated; each unit containing a predetermined quantity of active compound calculated to produce the desired therapeutic effect in association with the required pharmaceutical carrier. The specification for the dosage unit forms of the invention are dictated by and directly dependent on the unique characteristics of the active compound and the particular therapeutic effect to be achieved, and the limitations inherent in the art of compounding such an active compound for the treatment of individuals.

Combination immunogenic compositions are provided by combining one or more of the polypeptides of the invention with one or more known streptococcal polysaccharides or polysaccharide-protein conjugates.

The protein component of the carbohydrate-protein conjugates is known as a "carrier protein". The term "carrier proteins", includes those proteins that are non-toxic, non-reactogenic and obtainable in sufficient amount and purity. Carrier proteins are amenable to standard conjugation procedures. For example, CRM₁₉₇ can be used as the carrier protein. CRM₁₉₇, (Wyeth, Sanford, N.C.) is a non-toxic variant (toxoid) of diphtheria toxin isolated from cultures of *Corynebacterium diphtheria* strain C7 (β197) grown in casamino acids and yeast extract-based medium. CRM₁₉₇ is purified through ultra-filtration, ammonium sulfate precipitation, and ion-exchange chromatography. Other diphtheria toxoids are also suitable for use as carrier proteins.

Other suitable carrier proteins include inactivated bacterial toxins such as tetanus toxoid, pertussis toxoid, cholera toxoid (as described e.g. in PCT Publication No. WO/2004/083251), *E. coli* LT, *E. coli* ST, and exotoxin A from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Bacterial outer membrane proteins such as outer membrane complex c (OMPC), porins, transferrin binding proteins, pneumolysin, pneumococcal surface protein A

(PspA), pneumococcal adhesin protein (PsaA), or *Haemophilus influenzae* protein D, can also be used. Other proteins, such as ovalbumin, keyhole limpet hemocyanin (KLH), bovine serum albumin (BSA) or purified protein derivative of tuberculin (PPD) can also be used as carrier proteins.

Immunogenic compositions comprising *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polynucleotides are delivered to the recipient by a variety of vectors and expression systems. Such systems include, among others, chromosomal, episomal and virus-derived systems as mentioned above.

An immunogenic composition of the present invention is typically administered parenterally in unit dosage formulations containing standard, well-known nontoxic physiologically acceptable carriers, adjuvants, and vehicles as desired.

A pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle is understood to designate a compound or a combination of compounds entering into a pharmaceutical or immunogenic composition which does not cause side effects and which makes it possible, for example, to facilitate the administration of the active compound, to increase its life and/or its efficacy in the body, to increase its solubility in solution or alternatively to enhance its preservation. These pharmaceutically acceptable vehicles are well known and will be adapted by persons skilled in the art according to the nature and the mode of administration of the active compound chosen.

Injectable preparations, for example sterile injectable aqueous or oleaginous suspensions, are formulated according to the known art using suitable dispersing or wetting agents and suspending agents. The sterile injectable preparation can also be a sterile injectable solution or suspension in a nontoxic parenterally acceptable diluent or solvent, for example, as a solution in 1,3-butanediol.

Among the acceptable vehicles and solvents that may be employed are water, Ringer's solution, and isotonic sodium chloride solution. In addition, sterile, fixed oils are conventionally employed as a solvent or suspending medium. For this purpose any bland fixed oil can be employed including synthetic mono- or di-glycerides. In addition, fatty acids such as oleic acid find use in the preparation of injectables.

Carriers include neutral saline solutions buffered with phosphate, lactate, Tris, and the like. When administering viral vectors, one purifies the vector sufficiently to render it essentially free of undesirable contaminants, such as defective interfering adenovirus particles or endotoxins and other pyrogens such that it does not cause any untoward reactions in the individual receiving the vector construct. In some embodiments, the means of purifying the vector involves the use of buoyant density gradients, such as cesium chloride gradient centrifugation.

A carrier can also be a liposome. Means for using liposomes as delivery vehicles are well known in the art (see, e.g. the review by Schwendener RA, Adv. Exp. Med. Biol. 620: 117-128, 2007)

The immunogenic compositions of this invention also comprise a polynucleotide sequence of this invention operably linked to a regulatory sequence that controls gene expression. The polynucleotide sequence of interest is engineered into an expression vector, such as a plasmid, under the control of regulatory elements that will promote expression of the DNA, that is, promoter and/or enhancer elements. In some embodiments, the human cytomegalovirus immediate-early promoter/enhancer is used (U.S. Pat. No. 5,168,062). The promoter may be cell-specific and permit substantial transcription of the polynucleotide only in predetermined cells.

The polynucleotides of the invention are introduced directly into the host either as "naked" DNA (U.S. Pat. No. 5,580,859) or formulated in compositions with facilitating agents, such as bupivacaine and other local anesthetics (U.S. Pat. No. 5,593,972) and cationic polyamines (U.S. Pat. No. 6,127,170). In this polynucleotide immunization procedure, the polypeptides of the invention are expressed on a transient basis in vivo; no genetic material is inserted or integrated into the chromosomes of the host. This procedure is to be distinguished from gene therapy, where the goal is to insert or integrate the genetic material of interest into the chromosome. An assay is used to confirm that the polynucleotides administered by immunization do not give rise to a transformed phenotype in the host (e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 6,168,918).

Immunogenic compositions as described herein also comprise, in certain embodiments, one or more adjuvants. An adjuvant is a substance that enhances the immune response when administered together with an immunogen or antigen. A number of cytokines or lymphokines have been shown to have immune modulating activity, and thus are useful as adjuvants, including, but not limited to, the interleukins 1- α , 1- β , 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12 (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,723,127), 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 (and its mutant forms); the interferons- α , β and γ ; granulocyte-macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF) (see, e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 5,078,996 and ATCC Accession Number 39900); macrophage colony stimulating factor (M-CSF); granulocyte colony stimulating factor (G-CSF); and the tumor necrosis factors α and β . Still other adjuvants that are useful with the immunogenic compositions described herein include chemokines, including without limitation, MCP-1, MIP-1 α , MIP-1 β , and RANTES; adhesion molecules, such as a selectin, e.g., L-selectin, P-selectin and E-selectin; mucin-like molecules, e.g., CD34, GlyCAM-1 and MadCAM-1; a member of the integrin family such as LFA-1, VLA-1, Mac-1 and p150.95; a member of the immunoglobulin superfamily such as PECAM, ICAMs, e.g., ICAM-1, ICAM-2 and ICAM-3, CD2 and LFA-3; co-stimulatory molecules such as CD40 and CD40L; growth factors including vascular growth factor, nerve growth factor, fibroblast growth factor, epidermal growth factor, B7.2, PDGF, BL-1, and vascular endothelial growth factor; receptor molecules including Fas, TNF receptor, Flt, Apo-1, p55, WSL-1, DR3, TRAMP, Apo-3, AIR, LARD, NGRF, DR4, DR5, KILLER, TRAIL-R2, TRICK2, and DR6; and Caspase (ICE).

Suitable adjuvants used to enhance an immune response further include, without limitation, MPLTM (3-O-deacylated monophosphoryl lipid A, Corixa, Hamilton, Mont.), which is described in U.S. Pat. No. 4,912,094. Also suitable for use as adjuvants are synthetic lipid A analogs or aminoalkyl glucosamine phosphate compounds (AGP), or derivatives or analogs thereof, which are available from Corixa (Hamilton, Mont.), and which are described in U.S. Pat. No. 6,113,918. One such AGP is 2-[(R)-3-Tetradecanoyloxytetradecanoylamino]ethyl 2-Deoxy-4-O-phosphono-3-O-[(R)-3-tetradecanoyloxytetradecanoyl]-2-[(R)-3-tetradecanoyloxytetradecanoyl-amino]-b-D-glucopyranoside, which is also known as 529 (formerly known as RC529). This 529 adjuvant is formulated as an aqueous form (AF) or as a stable emulsion (SE).

Still other adjuvants include muramyl peptides, such as N-acetyl-muramyl-L-threonyl-D-isoglutamine (thr-MDP), N-acetyl-normuramyl-L-alanine-2-(1'-2' dipalmitoyl-sn-glycero-3-hydroxyphosphoryloxy)-ethylamine (MTP-PE); oil-in-water emulsions, such as MF59 (U.S. Pat. No. 6,299, 884) (containing 5% Squalene, 0.5% Tween 80, and 0.5% Span 85 (optionally containing various amounts of MTP-PE) formulated into submicron particles using a microfluidizer

such as Model 110Y microfluidizer (Microfluidics, Newton, Mass.), and SAF (containing 10% Squalene, 0.4% Tween 80, 5% pluronic-blocked polymer L121, and thr-MDP, either microfluidized into a submicron emulsion or vortexed to generate a larger particle size emulsion); incomplete Freund's adjuvant (IFA); aluminum salts (alum), such as aluminum hydroxide, aluminum phosphate, aluminum sulfate; Amphigen; Avridine; L121/squalene; D-lactide-poly(lactide)/glycoside; pluronic polyols; killed *Bordetella*; saponins, such as Stimulon™ QS-21 (Antigenics, Framingham, Mass.), described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,057,540, ISCOMATRIX (CSL Limited, Parkville, Australia), described in U.S. Pat. No. 5,254,339, and immunostimulating complexes (ISCOMS); *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*; bacterial lipopolysaccharides; synthetic polynucleotides such as oligonucleotides containing a CpG motif (e.g., U.S. Pat. No. 6,207,646); IC-31 (Intercell AG, Vienna, Austria), described in European Patent Nos. 1,296,713 and 1,326,634; a pertussis toxin (PT) or mutant thereof, a cholera toxin or mutant thereof (e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 7,285,281, 7,332,174, 7,361,355 and 7,384,640); or an *E. coli* heat-labile toxin (LT) or mutant thereof, particularly LT-K63, LT-R72 (e.g., U.S. Pat. Nos. 6,149,919, 7,115,730 and 7,291,588).

The present invention is directed inter alia to treatment of streptococcal infection by administration of therapeutic immunological reagents such as humanized monoclonal antibodies recognizing specific epitopes within a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide to a subject under conditions that generate a beneficial therapeutic response in the subject. "Immunological reagents" include e.g. antibodies, humanized antibodies, antibody fragments, peptides comprising antigen binding elements or CDRs, and the like. "Beneficial therapeutic responses" include e.g. induction of phagocytosis or opsonization of beta-hemolytic streptococci. The invention is also directed to use of the disclosed immunological reagents in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment or prevention of a beta-hemolytic streptococcal infection.

In one aspect, the invention provides methods of preventing or treating disease associated with beta-hemolytic streptococcal infection in a patient. Some methods of the invention entail administering to a patient an effective dosage of an antibody that specifically binds to a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 epitope. Such methods are particularly useful for preventing or treating beta-hemolytic streptococcal disease in subjects. "Subjects" include any vertebrate animal, such as companion animals, farm animals, mammals, and human patients. Exemplary methods include administering an effective dosage of an antibody or antigen binding peptide that binds to a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide. Some embodiments include administering an effective dosage of an antibody or other peptide comprising an antigen recognition site or CDR that specifically binds to an epitope within a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide,

such as e.g. a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of any one or more of SEQ ID NOs: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 13, 26, 28, 30, or 32.

In yet another aspect, the invention features administering antibodies or other antigen binding peptides that bind to a *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide in the subject and induce a clearing response against a beta-hemolytic streptococcus. For example, such a clearing response can be effected by Fc receptor mediated phagocytosis.

Therapeutic immunological reagents of the invention are typically substantially pure from undesired contaminants. This means that an immunological reagent is typically at least about 50% w/w (weight/weight) purity, as well as being substantially free from interfering proteins and contaminants. In some embodiments, the immunological reagents are at least about 80% w/w purity. In other embodiments, the immunological reagents are at least 90 or about 95% w/w purity. However, using conventional protein purification techniques, homogeneous peptides of at least 99% w/w purity can be obtained.

The methods can be used on both asymptomatic subjects and those currently showing symptoms of disease. The antibodies used in such methods can be human, humanized, chimeric or nonhuman antibodies, or fragments thereof (e.g., antigen binding fragments, peptides comprising epitope binding regions or CDRs) and can be monoclonal or polyclonal, as described herein.

In another aspect, the invention features administering an antibody with a pharmaceutical carrier as a pharmaceutical composition. Alternatively, the antibody can be administered to a subject by administering a polynucleotide encoding at least one antibody chain. The polynucleotide is expressed to produce the antibody chain in the patient. Optionally, the polynucleotide encodes heavy and light chains of the antibody. The polynucleotide is expressed to produce the heavy and light chains in the patient. In exemplary embodiments, the patient is monitored for level of administered antibody in the blood of the patient.

Subjects amenable to treatment include individuals at risk of disease but not showing symptoms, as well as patients presently showing symptoms. Therefore, the present immunogenic compositions and therapeutic antibodies can be administered prophylactically to the general population. In asymptomatic subjects, treatment can begin at any age. Treatment can be monitored by assaying antibody levels over time. If the immune response or antibody level falls, a booster dosage is indicated.

In prophylactic applications, immunogenic compositions or medicaments are administered to a subject susceptible to, or otherwise at risk of, beta-hemolytic streptococcal infection in an amount sufficient to eliminate or reduce the risk, lessen the severity, or delay the onset of the disease, including biochemical, histological and/or behavioral symptoms of disease associated with the infection, its complications and intermediate pathological phenotypes presenting during development of the disease. In therapeutic applications, compositions or medicaments are administered to a patient suspected of, or already suffering from such a disease in an amount sufficient to cure, or at least partially arrest, the symptoms of the disease (biochemical, histologic and/or behavioral), including its complications and intermediate pathological phenotypes in development of the disease.

An amount adequate to accomplish therapeutic or prophylactic treatment is defined as a therapeutically- or prophylac-

tically-effective dose. In both prophylactic and therapeutic regimes, immunological reagents are usually administered in several dosages until a sufficient immune response has been achieved. The term "immune response" or "immunological response" includes the development of a humoral (antibody mediated) and/or a cellular (mediated by antigen-specific T cells or their secretion products) response directed against an antigen in a recipient subject. Such a response can be an active response, i.e., induced by administration of immunogen (supra), or a passive response, i.e., induced by administration of immunoglobulin or antibody or primed T-cells. Typically, the immune response is monitored and repeated dosages are given if the immune response starts to wane.

Effective doses of the compositions of the present invention, for the treatment of beta-hemolytic streptococcal infection vary depending upon many different factors, including means of administration, target site, physiological state of the patient, whether the patient is human or another animal, other medications administered, and whether treatment is prophylactic or therapeutic. Usually, the subject is a human but non-human mammals including transgenic mammals can also be treated. Treatment dosages may need to be titrated to optimize safety and efficacy.

For passive immunization with an antibody, the dosage ranges from about 0.0001 to 100 mg/kg, and more usually 0.01 to 5 mg/kg (e.g., 0.02 mg/kg, 0.1 mg/kg, 0.15 mg/kg, 0.2 mg/kg, 0.25 mg/kg, 0.5 mg/kg, 0.75 mg/kg, 1 mg/kg, 2 mg/kg, etc.), of the host body weight. For example dosages can be about 1 mg/kg body weight or about 10 mg/kg body weight or within the range of 1 to 10 mg/kg. Doses intermediate in the above ranges are also intended to be within the scope of the invention. Subjects can be administered such doses daily, on alternative days, weekly, monthly, every two months, every three months, or according to any other schedule determined by empirical analysis. An exemplary treatment entails administration in multiple dosages over a prolonged period, for example, of at least six months. Additional exemplary treatment regimes entail administration once per every two weeks or once a month or once every 3 to 6 months. Exemplary dosage schedules include 1 to 10 mg/kg or 15 mg/kg on consecutive days, 30 mg/kg on alternate days or 60 mg/kg weekly. In some methods, two or more monoclonal antibodies with different binding specificities are administered simultaneously, in which case the dosage of each antibody administered falls within the ranges indicated.

Antibody is usually administered on multiple occasions. Intervals between single dosages can be weekly, monthly or yearly. Intervals can also be irregular as indicated by measuring blood levels of antibody to *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus*, *Streptococcus anginosus*, or *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* ORF1358 polypeptide in the patient. In some methods, dosage is adjusted to achieve a plasma antibody concentration of 1 to 1000 µg/ml and in some methods 25 to 300 µg/ml. Alternatively, antibody can be administered as a sustained release formulation, in which case less frequent administration is required. Dosage and frequency vary depending on the half-life of the antibody in the patient. In general, humanized antibodies show the longest half-life, followed by chimeric antibodies and nonhuman antibodies

The dosage and frequency of administration can vary depending on whether the treatment is prophylactic or therapeutic. In prophylactic applications, compositions containing the present antibodies or a cocktail thereof are administered to a patient not already in the disease state to enhance the patient's resistance. Such an amount is defined to be a "pro-

phylactic effective dose." In this use, the precise amounts again depend upon the patient's state of health and general immunity, but generally range from 0.1 to 25 mg per dose, especially 0.5 to 2.5 mg per dose. A relatively low dosage is administered at relatively infrequent intervals over a long period of time.

In therapeutic applications, a relatively high dosage (e.g., from about 1 to 200 mg of antibody per dose, with dosages of from 5 to 25 mg being more commonly used) at relatively short intervals is sometimes required until progression of the disease is reduced or terminated, and preferably until the patient shows partial or complete amelioration of symptoms of disease. Thereafter, the patent can be administered a prophylactic regime.

Doses for nucleic acids encoding antibodies range from about 10 ng to 1 g, 100 ng to 100 mg, 1 µg to 10 mg, or 30 to 300 µg DNA per patient. Doses for infectious viral vectors vary from 10 to 100, or more, virions per dose.

Therapeutic immunological reagents can be administered by parenteral, topical, intravenous, oral, subcutaneous, intraarterial, intracranial, intraperitoneal, intranasal or intramuscular means for prophylactic and/or therapeutic treatment. The most typical routes of administration of an immunogenic agent are intravenous infusion or subcutaneous administration, although other routes can be equally effective. The next most common route is intramuscular injection. This type of injection is most typically performed in the arm or leg muscles. In some methods, immunological reagents are injected directly into a particular tissue where deposits have accumulated, for example intracranial injection. Intramuscular injection or intravenous infusion are preferred for administration of antibody. In some methods, antibodies are administered as a sustained release composition or device, such as a microinfusor device (e.g. Medipad™ device; see Meehan et al., *Journal of Controlled Release*, 46:107-119, 1997.)

As alluded to above, immune responses against beta-hemolytic streptococcal infection can be formed in vivo (or ex vivo) by administration of nucleic acids encoding antibodies and their component chains used for passive immunization. Such nucleic acids can be DNA or RNA. A nucleic acid segment encoding an immunological reagent is typically linked to regulatory elements, such as a promoter and enhancer, that allow expression of the DNA segment in the intended target cells of a patient. For expression in blood cells, as is desirable for induction of an immune response, promoter and enhancer elements from light or heavy chain immunoglobulin genes or the CMV major intermediate early promoter and enhancer are suitable to direct expression. The linked regulatory elements and coding sequences are often cloned into a vector. For administration of double-chain antibodies, the two chains can be cloned in the same or separate vectors.

A number of viral vector systems are available including retroviral systems (see, e.g., Lawrie and Tumin, *Cur. Opin. Genet. Develop.* 3:102-109 (1993)); adenoviral vectors (see, e.g., Bett et al., *J. Virol.* 67:5911 (1993)); adeno-associated virus vectors (see, e.g., Zhou et al., *J. Exp. Med.* 179:1867 (1994)), viral vectors from the pox family including vaccinia virus and the avian pox viruses, viral vectors from the alpha virus genus such as those derived from Sindbis and Semliki Forest Viruses (see, e.g., Dubensky et al., *J. Virol.* 70:508, 1996), Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus (see Johnston et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,643,576) and rhabdoviruses, such as vesicular stomatitis virus (see Rose, U.S. Pat. No. 6,168,943) and papillomaviruses (Ohe et al., *Human Gene Therapy*

6:325, 1995; Woo et al., PCT publication No. WO 94/12629 and Xiao and Brandsma, *Nucleic Acids. Res.* 24: 2630-2622, 1996).

DNA encoding an antibody or antibody fragment comprising a CDR, or a vector containing the same, can be packaged into liposomes. Suitable lipids and related analogs are described by Eppstein et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,208,036, Feigner et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,264,618, Rose, U.S. Pat. No. 5,279,833, and Epanand et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,283,185. Vectors and DNA encoding an immunogen can also be adsorbed to or associated with particulate carriers, examples of which include polymethyl methacrylate polymers and polylactides and poly(lactide-co-glycolides), see, e.g., McGee et al., *J. Microencapsul.* 14(2):197-210, 1997.

Polynucleotide vectors or naked polynucleotides (e.g., DNA) can be delivered in vivo by administration to an individual patient, typically by systemic administration (e.g., intravenous, intraperitoneal, nasal, gastric, intradermal, intramuscular, subdermal, or intracranial infusion) or topical application (see e.g., Anderson et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,399,346). The term "naked polynucleotide" refers to a polynucleotide which is not administered together with a transfection facilitating agent. Naked polynucleotides are sometimes cloned in a plasmid vector. Plasmid vectors can further include transfection facilitating agents such as bupivacaine (Weiner et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,593,972). DNA can also be administered using a gene gun. See Xiao and Brandsma, supra. The DNA encoding an antibody (or fragment comprising a CDR) is precipitated onto the surface of microscopic metal beads. The microprojectiles are accelerated with a shock wave or expanding helium gas, and penetrate tissues to a depth of several cell layers. For example, The ACCEL™ Gene Delivery Device, i.e., a DNA gun, manufactured by Agricetus, Inc. Middleton Wis. is suitable for use in the practice of this invention. Alternatively, naked DNA can pass through skin into the blood stream simply by spotting the DNA onto skin with chemical or mechanical irritation (see Howell et al., PCT Publication No. WO 95/05853).

In another embodiment, vectors encoding immunological reagents can be delivered to cells ex vivo, such as cells explanted from an individual patient (e.g., lymphocytes, bone marrow aspirates, tissue biopsy) or universal donor hematopoietic stem cells, followed by reimplantation of the cells into a patient, usually after selection for cells which have incorporated the vector.

Immunological reagents of the invention can optionally be administered in combination with other agents that are at least partly effective in treatment of beta-hemolytic streptococcal disease. Immunological reagents of the invention can also be administered in combination with other agents that enhance access of the therapeutic immunological reagent to a target cell or tissue, for example, liposomes and the like. Coadministering such agents can decrease the dosage of a therapeutic immunological reagent (e.g., therapeutic antibody or antibody chain) needed to achieve a desired effect.

Immunological reagents of the invention are often administered as pharmaceutical compositions comprising an active therapeutic agent, i.e., and a variety of other pharmaceutically acceptable components. See Remington's *Pharmaceutical Science* (15th ed., Mack Publishing Company, Easton, Pa., 1980). The preferred form depends on the intended mode of administration and therapeutic application. The compositions can also include, depending on the formulation desired, pharmaceutically-acceptable, non-toxic carriers or diluents, which are defined as vehicles commonly used to formulate pharmaceutical compositions for animal or human administration. The diluent is selected so as not to affect the biological

activity of the combination. Examples of such diluents are distilled water, physiological phosphate-buffered saline, Ringer's solutions, dextrose solution, and Hank's solution. In addition, the pharmaceutical composition or formulation may also include other carriers, adjuvants, or nontoxic, nontherapeutic, nonimmunogenic stabilizers and the like.

Pharmaceutical compositions can also include large, slowly metabolized macromolecules such as proteins, polysaccharides such as chitosan, polylactic acids, polyglycolic acids and copolymers (such as latex functionalized Sepharose™, agarose, cellulose, and the like), polymeric amino acids, amino acid copolymers, and lipid aggregates (such as oil droplets or liposomes). Additionally, these carriers can function as immunostimulating agents (i.e., adjuvants).

For parenteral administration, immunological reagents of the invention can be administered as injectable dosages of a solution or suspension of the substance in a physiologically acceptable diluent with a pharmaceutical carrier that can be a sterile liquid such as water oils, saline, glycerol, or ethanol. Additionally, auxiliary substances, such as wetting or emulsifying agents, surfactants, pH buffering substances and the like can be present in compositions. Other components of pharmaceutical compositions are those of petroleum, animal, vegetable, or synthetic origin, for example, peanut oil, soybean oil, and mineral oil. In general, glycols such as propylene glycol or polyethylene glycol are preferred liquid carriers, particularly for injectable solutions. Antibodies can be administered in the form of a depot injection or implant preparation, which can be formulated in such a manner as to permit a sustained release of the active ingredient. An exemplary composition comprises monoclonal antibody at 5 mg/mL, formulated in aqueous buffer consisting of 50 mM L-histidine, 150 mM NaCl, adjusted to pH 6.0 with HCl.

Typically, compositions are prepared as injectables, either as liquid solutions or suspensions; solid forms suitable for solution in, or suspension in, liquid vehicles prior to injection can also be prepared. The preparation also can be emulsified or encapsulated in liposomes or micro particles such as polylactide, polyglycolide, or copolymer for enhanced adjuvant effect, as discussed above (see Langer, *Science* 249: 1527 (1990) and Hanes, *Advanced Drug Delivery Reviews* 28:97 (1997)). The immunological reagents of this invention can be administered in the form of a depot injection or implant preparation, which can be formulated in such a manner as to permit a sustained or pulsatile release of the active ingredient.

Additional formulations suitable for other modes of administration include oral, intranasal, and pulmonary formulations, suppositories, and transdermal applications. For suppositories, binders and carriers include, for example, polyalkylene glycols or triglycerides; such suppositories can be formed from mixtures containing the active ingredient in the range of 0.5% to 10%, preferably 1% to 2%. Oral formulations include excipients, such as pharmaceutical grades of mannitol, lactose, starch, magnesium stearate, sodium saccharine, cellulose, and magnesium carbonate. These compositions take the form of solutions, suspensions, tablets, pills, capsules, sustained release formulations or powders and contain 10% to 95% of active ingredient, preferably 25% to 70%.

Alternatively, transdermal delivery can be achieved using a skin patch or using transferosomes (Paul et al., *Eur. J. Immunol.* 25:3521, 1995; Cevc et al., *Biochem. Biophys. Acta* 1368:201-215, 1998).

The invention also provides methods of monitoring treatment in a patient suffering from or susceptible to beta-hemolytic streptococcal infection, i.e., for monitoring a course of treatment being administered to a patient. The

methods can be used to monitor both therapeutic treatment on symptomatic patients and prophylactic treatment on asymptomatic patients. In particular, the methods are useful for monitoring passive immunization (e.g., measuring level of administered antibody).

Some methods entail determining a baseline value, for example, of an antibody level or profile in a patient, before administering a dosage of immunological reagent, and comparing this with a value for the profile or level after treatment. A significant increase (i.e., greater than the typical margin of experimental error in repeat measurements of the same sample, expressed as one standard deviation from the mean of such measurements) in value of the level or profile signals a positive treatment outcome (i.e., that administration of the immunological reagent has achieved a desired response). If the value for immune response does not change significantly, or decreases, a negative treatment outcome is indicated. If the treatment is passive immunotherapy, the antibody level is expected to decrease over time with a characteristic half-life.

The tissue sample for analysis is typically blood, plasma, serum, mucous fluid or cerebrospinal fluid from the patient. The sample is analyzed, for example, for levels or titers of antibodies to streptococcal PPI. ELISA methods of detecting antibodies specific to streptococcal PPI are described in the Examples section. In some methods, the level or titer of an administered antibody is determined using a clearing assay, for example, in an in vitro phagocytosis assay (see, e.g., Jansen et al., Clin. Diagn. Lab. Immunol., 8(2): 245-250, 2001.)

The antibody profile following passive immunization typically shows an immediate peak in antibody concentration followed by an exponential decay. Without a further dosage, the decay approaches pretreatment levels within a period of days to months depending on the half-life of the antibody administered.

In some methods, a baseline measurement of antibody to streptococcal PPI in the patient is made before administration, a second measurement is made soon thereafter to determine the peak antibody level, and one or more further measurements are made at intervals to monitor decay of antibody levels. When the level of antibody has declined to baseline or a predetermined percentage of the peak less baseline (e.g., 50%, 25% or 10%), administration of a further dosage of antibody is administered. In some methods, peak or subsequent measured levels less background are compared with reference levels previously determined to constitute a beneficial prophylactic or therapeutic treatment regime in other patients. If the measured antibody level is significantly less than a reference level (e.g., less than the mean minus one standard deviation of the reference value in population of patients benefiting from treatment) administration of an additional dosage of antibody is indicated.

Additional methods include monitoring, over the course of treatment, any art-recognized physiologic symptom routinely relied on by researchers or physicians to diagnose or monitor streptococcal infections or associated diseases. For example, one can monitor symptoms of cellulitis, erysipelas, impetigo, necrotizing fasciitis, sore throat, red throat, chills, fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, rapid heartbeat, malaise, swollen tonsils, enlarged lymph nodes and/or rash.

The specification is most thoroughly understood in light of the teachings of the references cited within the specification, all of which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety. The embodiments within the specification provide an illustration of embodiments of the invention and should not be construed to limit the scope of the invention. The skilled artisan recognizes that many other embodiments are

encompassed by the claimed invention and that it is intended that the specification and examples be considered as exemplary only, with a true scope and spirit of the invention being indicated by the following claims.

EXAMPLES

Example 1

Identification of ORF1358 in Streptococcal Strains

The DNA and protein sequences of Streptococcal candidate antigens have been identified in many of streptococcal genomes. However, limited sequence information exists on the Group C and G Streptococcal genomes. Currently, two animal-origin streptococcal genomes (Group C) are being sequenced by the Sanger Centre, *Streptococcus equi* and *Streptococcus zooepidemicus*. Data mining of the partially finished genomes using degenerate primers yielded DNA sequences of ORF1358.

Degenerate oligonucleotide probes were designed to identify ORF1358 in *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis* strain ATCC12394 and strain ATCC35666, *Streptococcus intermedius* strain ATCC27335, *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *constellatus* strain ATCC27823, *Streptococcus anginosus* strain ATCC33397, and *Streptococcus constellatus* subsp. *pharyngis* strain NTCT13122.

All known sequences containing ORF1358 were aligned using AlignX (Vector NTI) and regions of homology were used for degenerate primer construction. Primers were designed to have minimal degeneracy while maintaining a high melting temperature and low self dimerization potential. The nucleotide sequences of the primers are set forth in SEQ ID NOs:14 through 21.

Primers were analyzed using the website for Integrated DNA Technologies (Coraville, Iowa). Initial amplification studies were performed using genomic DNA preparations made to a *Streptococcus C* isolate ATCC12394 (*Streptococcus dysgalactiae* subsp. *equisimilis*). Partial gene sequences were obtained to the 5' and 3' of ORF1358. Forward and reverse primers were then designed based on these sequences and were subsequently used to amplify approximately 700-900 bp of sequence from ORF1358 from different G and C strains. The primers based on ATCC12394 are set forth in SEQ ID NO:20 and 21.

Using methods familiar to those skilled in the art, genomic DNA was prepared from each of the strains mentioned above, and polynucleotide fragments corresponding to ORF1358 were amplified using the primers set forth in SEQ ID NO:14-21. The nucleotide sequences obtained for ORF1358 are set forth in SEQ ID NOs:1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 25, 27, 29, and 31.

Translation of these polynucleotides resulted in the amino acid sequences of ORF1358 in these *Streptococcus* strains. The polynucleotide sequences are set forth in SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 26, 28, 30, and 32.

The amino acid sequences in SEQ ID NOs:2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 were aligned using Clustal W, and a consensus sequence generated and set forth in SEQ ID NO:13.

Table 1A depicts the pair distances obtained using ClustalW (slow/accurate, Gonnet) or percent identity obtained after aligning the ORF1358 amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 2,4,6,8,10, and 12 with the ORF1358 amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs:22, 23, and 24:

TABLE 1A

Streptococcal Percent Identities			
	SEQ ID NO: 22	SEQ ID NO: 23	SEQ ID NO: 24
SEQ ID NO: 2	96.6	72.9	87.1
SEQ ID NO: 4	96.5	72.9	87.7
SEQ ID NO: 6	96.9	73.6	87.0
SEQ ID NO: 8	97.2	73.5	87.3
SEQ ID NO: 10	97.0	73.5	87.1
SEQ ID NO: 12	97.3	74.0	87.2

Table 1B depicts the pair distances or percent identity obtained using BLAST after aligning the ORF1358 amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs:2,4,6,8,10,12, 26, 28, 30, and 32 with the ORF1358 amino acid sequences set forth in SEQ ID NOs:22 and 23:

TABLE 1B

Streptococcal Percent Identities		
	SEQ ID NO: 22	SEQ ID NO: 23
SEQ ID NO: 2	96	71
SEQ ID NO: 4	96	71
SEQ ID NO: 6	97	70
SEQ ID NO: 8	97	70
SEQ ID NO: 10	96	70
SEQ ID NO: 12	97	71
SEQ ID NO: 26	96	69
SEQ ID NO: 28	96	70
SEQ ID NO: 30	61	62
SEQ ID NO: 32	61	61

Example 2

Antibodies to Group C/G Staphylococcal ORF 1358 Epitopes

The binding of antibodies to bacteria, a process known as opsonization, can lead to uptake and killing of the bacteria by phagocytic cells. Such antibodies, whether derived from bulk human or animal sources, or human or murine or chimeric monoclonal sources, and used alone or in combination, could be used in either prophylactic or therapeutic settings where BHS might be present in the bloodstream, such as neonatal sepsis or sepsis following surgery or leaking of an abscess.

Antibodies were raised in mice against recombinant group C/G staphylococcal zinc binding polypeptides encoded by ORF1358. In the course of screening those anti-beta-hemolytic-streptococcal antisera and monoclonal antibodies against various beta-hemolytic streptococcal (BHS) strains, it was noted that some antisera and antibodies are cross-reactive against many BHS strains, including members of *Streptococcus pyogenes* (Group A streptococci), *Streptococcus agalactiae* (Group B streptococci) and Group C and Group G streptococci (which include the streptococcal species *Streptococcus anginosus*, *Streptococcus constellatus*, *Streptococcus intermedius*, *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* sub. *Equisimilis* and *Streptococcus dysgalactiae* sub. *Dysgalactiae*) (See Table 1). Screening of the antibodies was performed using fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS). Briefly, heat killed streptococci were incubated with a mouse anti-Group C and Group G ORF 1358 streptococcal antibody on ice for 45 minutes, followed by two 10% FBS/PBS washes. The streptococci were then incubated with a goat anti-mouse-Alexa-

488 antibody (Molecular Probes, Eugene, Oreg.) for 30 minutes on ice, followed by two 10% FBS/PBS washes. Cells were then resuspended in 10% FBS/PBS and run on a FACS machine (e.g. see DeMaster et al., Infect. Immun., 70(1): 350-359, 2002.) This cross-reactivity also means that Group C or Group G ORF1358 or the polypeptide encoded thereby may be used in an immunogenic composition to induce an immune response effective to protect against infection by Group A or Group B *Streptococcus*, as well as by Group C or Group G *Streptococcus*.

Table 2 depicts the cross reactivity of anti-sera and antibodies to the group c/g streptococcal polypeptide encoded by ORF1358. According to Table 2, the symbol “+” means that the signal obtained from the specific antibody to the antigen is at least three-fold higher than background; the symbol “+/-” means that the signal obtained from the specific antibody to the antigen is between two-fold and three-fold higher than background; and the symbol “-” means that the signal obtained from the specific antibody to the antigen is at or below background.

TABLE 2

ANTIBODY CROSS-REACTIVITY		
Strain	Species	Reactivity to anti-ORF 1358
GAR 1165	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1199	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1251	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1278	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1362	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1439	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1530	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1566	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1672	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1839	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 1923	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 2107	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 2330	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 2646	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 2650	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 2869	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 3104	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 3549	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 3784	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 4029	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 4030	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 4230	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 4773	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 4983	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 4987	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 5861	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 5991	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 6084	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GAR 7055	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS20	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS21	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS22	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS23	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS24	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS25	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS26	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS27	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS28	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS29	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS30	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS31	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+/-
GS32	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS33	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS34	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS35	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS36	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+/-
GS37	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS38	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+
GS39	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+

TABLE 2-continued

ANTIBODY CROSS-REACTIVITY			
Strain	Species	Reactivity to anti-ORF 1358	
GS40	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS41	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS42	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+/-	
GS43	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS44	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	10
GS45	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS46	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS47	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+/-	
GS48	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+/-	
GS49	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS50	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	15
GS51	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS52	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS53	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS54	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+/-	
GS55	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS56	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	20
GS57	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS58	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS59	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS60	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS61	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS62	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS63	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	25
GS64	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS65	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GS66	<i>Streptococcus pyogenes</i>	+	
GAR 1	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+	
GAR 1012	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	30
GAR 1023	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 1049	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 10895	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 1192	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 127	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 12790	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 1305	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	35
GAR 131	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 1355	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 1446	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 1494	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 154	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+	
GAR 176	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	40
GAR 18	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+	
GAR 1844	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 1931	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 2369	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 252	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	45
GAR 2533	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 2682	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 2717	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 2723	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 2724	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 2842	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 287	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 3003	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	50
GAR 3751	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 381	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 3830	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 4131	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 4293	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 4398	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	55
GAR 462	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 4837	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 54	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 562	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+	
GAR 6016	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+	
GAR 614	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 63	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+	60
GAR 6332	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+	
GAR 6387	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 6505	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 67	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 864	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 967	<i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	-	65
GS19	GGS	+/-	

TABLE 2-continued

ANTIBODY CROSS-REACTIVITY			
Strain	Species	Reactivity to anti-ORF 1358	
GS27	GGS	+/-	
ATCC 33397	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
ATCC 33397	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 10823	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 1272	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 1370	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 1425	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 1592	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 1595	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 2044	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 2523	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 2565	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 2697	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 2822	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 3091	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 3560	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 3576	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 3858	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 3938	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 4133	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 4158	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 4234	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 4426	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 4680	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 4834	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 4896	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 5093	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 5094	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 5675	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 5776	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 5831	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 6187	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 6590	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 7000	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 7023	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 7190	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 7214	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 7468	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 7818	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 8620	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+	
GAR 8693	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 8722	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
GAR 8736	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	-	
GAR 8954	<i>Streptococcus anginosus</i>	+/-	
ATCC 27823	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	-	
GAR 1235	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	-	
GAR 1384	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+/-	
GAR 1811	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+	
GAR 2421	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+/-	
GAR 3145	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	-	
GAR 3355	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	-	
GAR 4048	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+/-	
GAR 4083	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+	
GAR 4861	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+	
GAR 4870	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+	
GAR 5757	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+/-	
GAR 6129	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+/-	
GAR 6147	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	-	
GAR 6258	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+	
GAR 7224	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+	
GAR 7369	<i>Streptococcus constellatus</i>	+	
ATCC 12394	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i>	+/-	
ATCC 12394	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i>	+	
ATCC 40378	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i>	-	
ATCC 40378	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i>	-	
GAR 3868	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i>	+/-	
GAR 4272	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i>	+	
ATCC 35666	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i> sub. <i>Equisimilis</i>	+	
BAA-338	<i>Streptococcus dysgalactiae</i> sub. <i>Equisimilis</i>	+/-	
GAR 3015	<i>Streptococcus equisimilis</i>	+	
ATCC 27335	<i>Streptococcus intermedius</i>	+	
ATCC 27335	<i>Streptococcus intermedius</i>	+	
GAR 2407	<i>Streptococcus intermedius</i>	-	

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TABLE 2-continued

ANTIBODY CROSS-REACTIVITY		
Strain	Species	Reactivity to anti-ORF 1358
GS28	unk	+
GS67	GGG/GCS	+
GS68	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS69	GGG/GCS	-
GS70	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS71	GGG/GCS	+
GS72	GGG/GCS	+
GS73	GGG/GCS	-
GS74	GGG/GCS	-
GS75	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS77	GGG/GCS	+
GS78	GGG/GCS	+
GS79	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS80	GGG/GCS	-

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TABLE 2-continued

ANTIBODY CROSS-REACTIVITY		
Strain	Species	Reactivity to anti-ORF 1358
GS81	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS82	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS83	GGG/GCS	+
GS84	GGG/GCS	-
GS85	GGG/GCS	-
GS86	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS88	GGG/GCS	+
GS89	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS90	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS91	GGG/GCS	+/-
GS92	GGG/GCS	+
GS93	GGG/GCS	+
GS94	GGG/GCS	+

SEQUENCE LISTING

<160> NUMBER OF SEQ ID NOS: 32

<210> SEQ ID NO 1

<211> LENGTH: 1049

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus dysgalactiae

<400> SEQUENCE: 1

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atgctacttg tagcaggagc tggacatgac catcaccatg aggatgctga caaaaagcat      180
gagcataata aacatagcga agaaggacac aaccatgctt ttgaccaca cgtgtgggtg      240
tcaccatacc gtagcattac ggtcgttgaa aatattogcg acagtctttc aaaagcttac      300
ccagaaaaag cagagaactt caaagccaat gccgctactt atattgaaa attaaaagag      360
cttgacaaag actatacggc agcactttca gatgctaagc aaaagagctt tgtcactcaa      420
catgctgctt ttggctacat ggcacttgac tatggcttga accaaaattc tattaatggt      480
gtcacaccag atgcagaacc atcagcaaaa cgtattgcta ctttgtcaaa atacgttaaa      540
aaatatggca tcaatacat ttattttgag gaaaatgctt caaataaggt agctaaaacg      600
ttagctaagg aagcaggagt taaaacagct gttcttagtc ctcttgaagg cttaacagaa      660
aaagaaatga aagcaggcga agattacttt acagtcatgc gcaaaaacct tgaaacatta      720
cgcttgacga ctgatgttgc cggtaaagaa atccttcag aagaagatac cactaagaca      780
gtgtataatg gttacttcaa agataaagat gtcaaagacc gtaaattatc tgactggtct      840
ggtaactggc agtctgttta ccatacctt caagatggca ctttagacca agtttgggat      900
tacaaggcta aaaaatctaa aggtaaaatg acagcagctg aatacaaga ttactacact      960
actggttaca aaactgatgt ggagcaaatc aacattaatg gtaagaaaaa caccatgaca     1020
tttgtgcgaa atggtgaaaa gaaaacctt

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<210> SEQ ID NO 2

<211> LENGTH: 349

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus dysgalactiae

<400> SEQUENCE: 2

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Lys Lys Ile Gln Asp Ala Asp Ala Phe Val Tyr Met Asp Asp Asn Met
 1 5 10 15
 Glu Thr Trp Ile Ser Asp Val Lys Lys Ser Leu Lys Ser Lys Lys Val
 20 25 30
 Thr Ile Val Lys Gly Thr Gly Asn Met Leu Leu Val Ala Gly Ala Gly
 35 40 45
 His Asp His His His Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys Lys His Glu His Asn Lys
 50 55 60
 His Ser Glu Glu Gly His Asn His Ala Phe Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu
 65 70 75 80
 Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser Ile Thr Val Val Glu Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu
 85 90 95
 Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn Phe Lys Ala Asn Ala Ala
 100 105 110
 Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Asp Tyr Thr Ala Ala
 115 120 125
 Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe
 130 135 140
 Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln Ile Ser Ile Asn Gly
 145 150 155 160
 Val Thr Pro Asp Ala Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Ser
 165 170 175
 Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys Tyr Gly Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn
 180 185 190
 Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu Ala Gly Val Lys
 195 200 205
 Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Thr Glu Lys Glu Met Lys
 210 215 220
 Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Thr Val Met Arg Lys Asn Leu Glu Thr Leu
 225 230 235 240
 Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Ile Leu Pro Glu Glu Asp
 245 250 255
 Thr Thr Lys Thr Val Tyr Asn Gly Tyr Phe Lys Asp Lys Asp Val Lys
 260 265 270
 Asp Arg Lys Leu Ser Asp Trp Ser Gly Asn Trp Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro
 275 280 285
 Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Trp Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys
 290 295 300
 Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Asp Tyr Tyr Thr
 305 310 315 320
 Thr Gly Tyr Lys Thr Asp Val Glu Gln Ile Asn Ile Asn Gly Lys Lys
 325 330 335
 Asn Thr Met Thr Phe Val Arg Asn Gly Glu Lys Lys Thr
 340 345

<210> SEQ ID NO 3
 <211> LENGTH: 1103
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus dysgalactiae

<400> SEQUENCE: 3

gattttgaac cgtaaccaa agacattaa aaaattcaag atgcagatgc gttcgtttat 60
 atggacgaca acatggaac atggatttct gatgttaaaa aatcattgac atctaaaaa 120
 gtaaccattg ttaaaggaac tggtaacatg ctactttag caggagetgg acatgacat 180

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caccatgagg atgctgacaa aaagcatgag cataataaac atagcgaaga aggacacaa 240
catgcttttg acccacacgt gtggtgtgca ccataccgta gcattacggt cgttgaaaat 300
attcgcgaca gtctttcaaa agcttaccca gaaaaagcag aaaacttcaa agccaatgcc 360
gctacttata ttgaaaaatt aaaagagctt gacaaagact atacggcagc actttcagat 420
gctaagcaaa agagctttgt cactcaacat gctgcttttg gctacatggc acttgactat 480
ggcttgaacc aaatttctat taatgggtgc acaccagata cagaaccatc agcaaaacgt 540
attgctactt tgtcaaaata cgttaaaaaa tatggcatca aatacattta ttttgaggaa 600
aatgcttcaa ataaggtagc taaaacgtta gctaaggaag caggagtaa aacagctggt 660
cttagtccgc ttgaaggctt aacagaaaaa gaaatgaaag caggcgaaga ttactttaca 720
gtcatgcgca aaaaccttga aacattacgc ttgacgactg atgttgccgg taaagaaatc 780
cttcagaag aagataccac taagacagtg tataatggtt acttcaaaga taaagatgct 840
aaagaccgta aattatctga ctggtctggt aactggcagt ctgtttacc ataacttcaa 900
gatggcactt tagaccaagt ttgggattac aaggctaaaa aatctaaagg taaatgaca 960
gcagctgaat acaaagatta ctacactact gggtacaaaa ctgatgtgga gcaaatcaac 1020
attaatgga agaaaaacac catgacattt gtgcgaaatg gtgaaagaa aacctttact 1080
tacaaatag ctggtaaaga aat 1103

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<210> SEQ ID NO 4
<211> LENGTH: 367
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus dysgalactiae

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<400> SEQUENCE: 4

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Asp Phe Glu Pro Ser Thr Lys Asp Ile Lys Lys Ile Gln Asp Ala Asp
1           5           10          15
Ala Phe Val Tyr Met Asp Asp Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Ile Ser Asp Val
20        25        30
Lys Lys Ser Leu Thr Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly Thr Gly
35        40        45
Asn Met Leu Leu Val Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His His His Glu Asp
50        55        60
Ala Asp Lys Lys His Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly His Asn
65        70        75        80
His Ala Phe Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser Ile Thr
85        90        95
Val Val Glu Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro Glu Lys
100       105       110
Ala Glu Asn Phe Lys Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys Leu Lys
115       120       125
Glu Leu Asp Lys Asp Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys Gln Lys
130       135       140
Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu Asp Tyr
145       150       155       160
Gly Leu Asn Gln Ile Ser Ile Asn Gly Val Thr Pro Asp Thr Glu Pro
165       170       175
Ser Ala Lys Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Ser Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys Tyr Gly
180       185       190
Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys
195       200       205
Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu Ala Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu

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210	215	220
Glu Gly Leu Thr Glu Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Thr 225 230 235 240		
Val Met Arg Lys Asn Leu Glu Thr Leu Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp Val Ala 245 250 255		
Gly Lys Glu Ile Leu Pro Glu Glu Asp Thr Thr Lys Thr Val Tyr Asn 260 265 270		
Gly Tyr Phe Lys Asp Lys Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Ser Asp Trp 275 280 285		
Ser Gly Asn Trp Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu 290 295 300		
Asp Gln Val Trp Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys Met Thr 305 310 315 320		
Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Asp Tyr Tyr Thr Thr Gly Tyr Lys Thr Asp Val 325 330 335		
Glu Gln Ile Asn Ile Asn Gly Lys Lys Asn Thr Met Thr Phe Val Arg 340 345 350		
Asn Gly Glu Lys Lys Thr Phe Thr Tyr Lys Tyr Ala Gly Lys Glu 355 360 365		

<210> SEQ ID NO 5
 <211> LENGTH: 881
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus intermedius

<400> SEQUENCE: 5

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gaatctaaaa aagtaacat tgttaaagga actggtaaca tgctacttgt agcaggagct 60
ggacatgacc atccacatga ggatgctgac aaaaagcatg agcataataa acatagcgaa 120
gaaggacaca accatgcttt tgaccocacac gtgtggttgt caccataacc tagcattacg 180
gtcgttgaaa atattcgcga cagtccttca aaagcttacc cagaaaaagc agagaacttc 240
aaagccaatg cgcctactta tattgaaaaa ttaaagagc ttgacaaaga ctatacggca 300
gcactttcag atgctaagca aaagagcttt gtcactcaac atgctgcttt tggctacatg 360
gcacttgact atggcttgaa ccaaatttct attaatggtg tcacaccaga tgcagaacca 420
tcagcaaaac gtattgctac tttgtcaaaa tacgttaaaa aatatggcat caaatacatt 480
tattttgagg aaaatgcttc aaataaggta gctaaaacgt tagctaagga agcaggagtt 540
aaaacagctg ttcttagtcc tcttgaaggc ttaacagaaa aagaaatgaa agcaggcgaa 600
gattacttta cagtcatgcg caaaaacctt gaaacattac gcttgacgac tgatgttgcc 660
ggtaaagaaa tccttcocaga agaagatacc actaagacag tgtataatgg ttacttcaaa 720
gataaagatg tcaaagaccg taaattatct gactggtctg gtaactggca gtctgtttac 780
ccataccttc aagatggcac tttagaccaa gtttgggatt acaaggctaa aaaatctaaa 840
ggtaaaatga cagcagctga atacaagat tactacacta c 881

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<210> SEQ ID NO 6
 <211> LENGTH: 293
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus intermedius

<400> SEQUENCE: 6

Glu Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly Thr Gly Asn Met Leu Leu 1 5 10 15
Val Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His His His Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys Lys 20 25 30

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His Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly His Asn His Ala Phe Asp
 35 40 45

Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser Ile Thr Val Val Glu Asn
 50 55 60

Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn Phe
 65 70 75 80

Lys Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys
 85 90 95

Asp Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr
 100 105 110

Gln His Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln
 115 120 125

Ile Ser Ile Asn Gly Val Thr Pro Asp Ala Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Arg
 130 135 140

Ile Ala Thr Leu Ser Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys Tyr Gly Ile Lys Tyr Ile
 145 150 155 160

Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Lys
 165 170 175

Glu Ala Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Thr
 180 185 190

Glu Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Thr Val Met Arg Lys
 195 200 205

Asn Leu Glu Thr Leu Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Ile
 210 215 220

Leu Pro Glu Glu Asp Thr Thr Lys Thr Val Tyr Asn Gly Tyr Phe Lys
 225 230 235 240

Asp Lys Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Ser Asp Trp Ser Gly Asn Trp
 245 250 255

Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Trp
 260 265 270

Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr
 275 280 285

Lys Asp Tyr Tyr Thr
 290

<210> SEQ ID NO 7
 <211> LENGTH: 852
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus constellatus subsp. constellatus
 <400> SEQUENCE: 7

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 catgaccatc accatgagga tgctgacaaa aagcatgagc ataataaaca tagcgaagaa 120
 ggacacaacc atgcttttga cccacacgtg tggttgtcac cataccgtag cattacggtc 180
 gttgaaaata ttcgcgacag tctttcaaaa gcttaccag aaaaagcaga gaacttcaaa 240
 gccaatgccg ctacttatat tgaaaaatta aaagagcttg acaaagacta tacggcagca 300
 ctttcagatg ctaagcaaaa gagctttgtc actcaacatg ctgcttttgg ctacatggca 360
 cttgactatg gcttgaacca aatttctatt aatgggtgca caccagatgc agaaccatca 420
 gcaaaaacgta ttgctacttt gtcaaaaatac gttaaaaaat atggcatcaa atacatttat 480
 tttgaggaaa atgcttcaaa taaggtagct aaaacgtag ctaaggaagc aggagttaa 540
 acagctgttc ttagtctct tgaaggctta acagaaaaag aatgaaagc aggcaagat 600

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tactttacag tcatgcgcaa aaaccttgaa acattacgct tgacgactga tgttgccggt 660
aaagaaatcc ttccagaaga agataccact aagacagtgt ataatgggta cttcaaagat 720
aaagatgtca aagaccgtaa attatctgac tggctcggtg actggcagtc tgtttacca 780
taccttcaag atggcacttt agaccaagtt tgggattaca aggctaaaaa atctaaaggt 840
aaaatgacag ca 852
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<210> SEQ ID NO 8
<211> LENGTH: 284
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus constellatus subsp. constellatus
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<400> SEQUENCE: 8
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```
Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly Thr Gly Asn Met Leu Leu Val
1 5 10 15
Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His His His Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys Lys His
20 25 30
Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly His Asn His Ala Phe Asp Pro
35 40 45
His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser Ile Thr Val Val Glu Asn Ile
50 55 60
Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn Phe Lys
65 70 75 80
Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Asp
85 90 95
Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln
100 105 110
His Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln Ile
115 120 125
Ser Ile Asn Gly Val Thr Pro Asp Ala Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Arg Ile
130 135 140
Ala Thr Leu Ser Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys Tyr Gly Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr
145 150 155 160
Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu
165 170 175
Ala Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Thr Glu
180 185 190
Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Thr Val Met Arg Lys Asn
195 200 205
Leu Glu Thr Leu Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Ile Leu
210 215 220
Pro Glu Glu Asp Thr Thr Lys Thr Val Tyr Asn Gly Tyr Phe Lys Asp
225 230 235 240
Lys Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Ser Asp Trp Ser Gly Asn Trp Gln
245 250 255
Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Trp Asp
260 265 270
Tyr Lys Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys Met Thr Ala
275 280
```

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<210> SEQ ID NO 9
<211> LENGTH: 888
<212> TYPE: DNA
<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus anginosus
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<400> SEQUENCE: 9
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ttgaaatcta aaaaagtaac cattgttaaa ggaactggta acatgctact tgtagcagga    60
gctggacatg accatcacca tgaggatgct gacaaaaagc atgagcataa taaacatagc    120
gaagaaggac acaaccatgc ttttgaccca cacgtgtggt tgtcaccata ccgtagcatt    180
acggtcgttg aaaatattcg cgacagtctt tcaaaagctt acccagaaaa agcagagAAC    240
ttcaaagcca atgcccgtac ttatatggaa aaattaaaag agcttgacaa agactatacg    300
gcagcacttt cagatgctaa gcaaaagagc tttgtcactc aacatgctgc tttggctac    360
atggcacttg actatggctt gaaccaaatt tctattaatg gtgtcacacc agatgcagaa    420
ccatcagcaa aacgtattgc tactttgtca aaatcgtta aaaaatatgg catcaaatac    480
atatttttg aggaaaatgc ttcaaaatag gttagctaaa cgtagctaa ggaagcagga    540
gttaaaacag ctgttcttag tcctcttgaa ggcttaacag aaaaagaat gaaagcaggc    600
gaagattact ttacagtcac gcgcaaaac cttgaaacat tacgcttgac gactgatgtt    660
gccggtaaaG aaatccttc agaagaagat accactaaga cagtgtataa tggttacttc    720
aaagataaag atgtcaaaga ccgtaaaata tctgactggt ctggtaactg gcagtctggt    780
taccataacc ttcaagatgg cactttagac caagtttggg attacaaggc taaaaaatct    840
aaaggtaaaa tgacagcagc tgaatacaaa gattactaca ctactggt                    888

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<210> SEQ ID NO 10

<211> LENGTH: 296

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus anginosus

<400> SEQUENCE: 10

```

Leu Lys Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly Thr Gly Asn Met Leu
1      5      10     15
Leu Val Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His His His Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys
20     25     30
Lys His Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly His Asn His Ala Phe
35     40     45
Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser Ile Thr Val Val Glu
50     55     60
Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn
65     70     75     80
Phe Lys Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp
85     90     95
Lys Asp Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val
100    105    110
Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn
115    120    125
Gln Ile Ser Ile Asn Gly Val Thr Pro Asp Ala Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys
130    135    140
Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Ser Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys Tyr Gly Ile Lys Tyr
145    150    155    160
Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala
165    170    175
Lys Glu Ala Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu
180    185    190
Thr Glu Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Thr Val Met Arg
195    200    205
Lys Asn Leu Glu Thr Leu Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Gly Lys Glu
210    215    220

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Ile Leu Pro Glu Glu Asp Thr Thr Lys Thr Val Tyr Asn Gly Tyr Phe
 225 230 235 240

Lys Asp Lys Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Ser Asp Trp Ser Gly Asn
 245 250 255

Trp Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Val
 260 265 270

Trp Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys Met Thr Ala Ala Glu
 275 280 285

Tyr Lys Asp Tyr Tyr Thr Thr Gly
 290 295

<210> SEQ ID NO 11
 <211> LENGTH: 894
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus constellatus subsp. constellatus

<400> SEQUENCE: 11

tctaaaaaag taaccattgt taaaggaact ggtaacatgc tacttgtagc aggagctgga 60
 catgaccatc accatgagga tgctgacaaa aagcatgagc ataataaaca tagcgaagaa 120
 ggacacaacc atgcttttga cccacacgtg tggttgtcac cataccgtag cattacggtc 180
 gttgaaaata ttgcgcagac tctttcaaaa gcttaccag aaaaagcaga gaacttcaaa 240
 gccaatgccg ctacttatat tgaaaaatta aaagagcttg acaagacta tacggcagca 300
 ctttcagatg ctaagcaaaa gagctttgtc actcaacatg ctgcttttgg ctacatggca 360
 cttgactatg gettgaacca aatttctatt aatggtgtca caccagatgc agaaccatca 420
 gcaaaacgta ttgctacttt gtcaaaaatac gttaaaaaat atggcatcaa atacatttat 480
 ttgagggaaa atgcttcaaa taaggtagct aaaacgtag ctaaggaagc aggagttaa 540
 acagctgttc ttagtctct tgaaggctta acagaaaaag aaatgaaagc aggogaagat 600
 tactttacag tcatgcgcaa aaaccttgaa acattacgct tgacgactga tgttgccggc 660
 aaagaaatcc ttccagaaga agataccact aagacagtgt ataatggtta cttcaaagat 720
 aaagatgtca aagaccgtaa attatctgac tggctctggta actggcagtc tgtttacca 780
 taccttcaag atggcacttt agaccaagtt tgggattaca aggctaaaaa atctaaaggt 840
 aaaaatgacag cagctgaata caagattac tacactactg gttacaaaac tgat 894

<210> SEQ ID NO 12
 <211> LENGTH: 298
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus constellatus subsp. constellatus

<400> SEQUENCE: 12

Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly Thr Gly Asn Met Leu Leu Val
 1 5 10 15

Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His His His Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys Lys His
 20 25 30

Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly His Asn His Ala Phe Asp Pro
 35 40 45

His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser Ile Thr Val Val Glu Asn Ile
 50 55 60

Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn Phe Lys
 65 70 75 80

Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Asp
 85 90 95

Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln

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145	150	155	160
Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu	165	170	175
Ala Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Thr Glu	180	185	190
Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Thr Val Met Arg Lys Asn	195	200	205
Leu Glu Thr Leu Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Ile Leu	210	215	220
Pro Glu Glu Asp Thr Thr Lys Thr Val Tyr Asn Gly Tyr Phe Lys Asp	225	230	235
Lys Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Ser Asp Trp Ser Gly Asn Trp Gln	245	250	255
Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Trp Asp	260	265	270
Tyr Lys Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys Met Thr Ala	275	280	

<210> SEQ ID NO 14
 <211> LENGTH: 25
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer D1358-F

<400> SEQUENCE: 14

gcaggwacrg arcckcatga ttttg

25

<210> SEQ ID NO 15
 <211> LENGTH: 16
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer D1358-F3

<400> SEQUENCE: 15

acgtrtggtt gtcwcc

16

<210> SEQ ID NO 16
 <211> LENGTH: 22
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer D1358-F5

<400> SEQUENCE: 16

gctgtbetta gycrcrttga ag

22

<210> SEQ ID NO 17
 <211> LENGTH: 22
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial
 <220> FEATURE:
 <223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer D1358-R2

<400> SEQUENCE: 17

cttcaagygg rctaagvaca gc

22

<210> SEQ ID NO 18
 <211> LENGTH: 20
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Artificial
 <220> FEATURE:

-continued

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer D1358-R3

<400> SEQUENCE: 18

gcdgtcatwt ydytttaga 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 19

<211> LENGTH: 23

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Artificial

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: Primer D1358-R5

<400> SEQUENCE: 19

gcrttytkbyt cytttagcytc aaa 23

<210> SEQ ID NO 20

<211> LENGTH: 23

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Artificial

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: ATCC12394-1358-F

<400> SEQUENCE: 20

cagatgcggt cgtttatatg gac 23

<210> SEQ ID NO 21

<211> LENGTH: 20

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Artificial

<220> FEATURE:

<223> OTHER INFORMATION: ATCC12394-1358-R

<400> SEQUENCE: 21

cgcacaaatg tcatggtggt 20

<210> SEQ ID NO 22

<211> LENGTH: 515

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus pyogenes

<400> SEQUENCE: 22

Met Lys Lys Lys Ile Leu Leu Met Met Ser Leu Ile Ser Val Phe Phe
1 5 10 15

Ala Trp Gln Leu Thr Gln Ala Lys Gln Val Leu Ala Glu Gly Lys Val
20 25 30

Lys Val Val Thr Thr Phe Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Phe Thr Lys Gly Val
35 40 45

Ile Gly Asn Asp Gly Asp Val Phe Met Leu Met Lys Ala Gly Thr Glu
50 55 60

Pro His Asp Phe Glu Pro Ser Thr Lys Asp Ile Lys Lys Ile Gln Asp
65 70 75 80

Ala Asp Ala Phe Val Tyr Met Asp Asp Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Val Ser
85 90 95

Asp Val Lys Lys Ser Leu Thr Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly
100 105 110

Thr Gly Asn Met Leu Leu Val Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His Pro His
115 120 125

Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys Lys His Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly
130 135 140

His Asn His Ala Phe Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser
145 150 155 160

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Ile Thr Val Val Glu Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro
      165                               170                               175

Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn Phe Lys Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys
      180                               185                               190

Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Asp Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys
      195                               200                               205

Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu
      210                               215                               220

Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln Ile Ser Ile Asn Gly Val Thr Pro Asp Ala
      225                               230                               235                               240

Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Ser Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys
      245                               250                               255

Tyr Gly Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Ser Lys Val
      260                               265                               270

Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu Ala Gly Val Lys Ala Ala Val Leu Ser
      275                               280                               285

Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Thr Glu Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Gln Asp Tyr
      290                               295                               300

Phe Thr Val Met Arg Lys Asn Leu Glu Thr Leu Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp
      305                               310                               315                               320

Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Ile Leu Pro Glu Lys Asp Thr Thr Lys Thr Val
      325                               330                               335

Tyr Asn Gly Tyr Phe Lys Asp Lys Glu Val Lys Asp Arg Gln Leu Ser
      340                               345                               350

Asp Trp Ser Gly Ser Trp Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly
      355                               360                               365

Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Trp Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys
      370                               375                               380

Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Asp Tyr Tyr Thr Thr Gly Tyr Lys Thr
      385                               390                               395                               400

Asp Val Glu Gln Ile Lys Ile Asn Gly Lys Lys Lys Thr Met Thr Phe
      405                               410                               415

Val Arg Asn Gly Glu Lys Lys Thr Phe Thr Tyr Thr Tyr Ala Gly Lys
      420                               425                               430

Glu Ile Leu Thr Tyr Pro Lys Gly Asn Arg Gly Val Arg Phe Met Phe
      435                               440                               445

Glu Ala Lys Glu Ala Asp Ala Gly Glu Phe Lys Tyr Val Gln Phe Ser
      450                               455                               460

Asp His Ala Ile Ala Pro Glu Lys Ala Lys His Phe His Leu Tyr Trp
      465                               470                               475                               480

Gly Gly Asp Ser Gln Glu Lys Leu His Lys Glu Leu Glu His Trp Pro
      485                               490                               495

Thr Tyr Tyr Gly Ser Asp Leu Ser Gly Arg Glu Ile Ala Gln Glu Ile
      500                               505                               510

Asn Ala His
      515

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<210> SEQ ID NO 23
<211> LENGTH: 506
<212> TYPE: PRT
<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus agalactiae

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<400> SEQUENCE: 23

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Met Arg Lys Lys Phe Leu Leu Leu Met Ser Phe Val Ala Met Phe Ala
1      5      10      15

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Ala Trp Gln Leu Val Gln Val Lys Gln Val Trp Ala Asp Ser Lys Leu
20 25 30

Lys Val Val Thr Thr Phe Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Phe Thr Lys Asn Val
35 40 45

Val Gly Asp Lys Ala Asp Val Ser Met Leu Ile Lys Ala Gly Thr Glu
50 55 60

Pro His Asp Phe Glu Pro Ser Thr Lys Asn Ile Ala Ala Ile Gln Asp
65 70 75 80

Ser Asn Ala Phe Val Tyr Met Asp Asp Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Ala Pro
85 90 95

Lys Val Ala Lys Ser Val Lys Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Thr Ile Lys Gly
100 105 110

Thr Gly Asp Met Leu Leu Thr Lys Gly Val Glu Glu Glu Gly Glu Glu
115 120 125

His Glu Gly His Gly His Glu Gly His His His Glu Leu Asp Pro His
130 135 140

Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Glu Arg Ala Ile Ser Val Val Glu Asn Ile Arg
145 150 155 160

Asn Lys Phe Val Lys Ala Tyr Pro Lys Asp Ala Ala Ser Phe Asn Lys
165 170 175

Asn Ala Asp Ala Tyr Ile Ala Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Glu Tyr
180 185 190

Lys Asn Gly Leu Ser Asn Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His
195 200 205

Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln Val Pro
210 215 220

Ile Ala Gly Leu Thr Pro Asp Ala Glu Pro Ser Ser Lys Arg Leu Gly
225 230 235 240

Glu Leu Ala Lys Tyr Ile Lys Lys Tyr Asn Ile Asn Tyr Ile Tyr Phe
245 250 255

Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Asp Glu Val
260 265 270

Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Ser Lys Lys
275 280 285

Glu Met Ala Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Ser Val Met Arg Arg Asn Leu
290 295 300

Lys Val Leu Lys Lys Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Val Ala Pro
305 310 315 320

Glu Glu Asp Lys Thr Lys Thr Val Glu Thr Gly Tyr Phe Lys Thr Lys
325 330 335

Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Thr Asp Tyr Ser Gly Asn Trp Gln Ser
340 345 350

Val Tyr Pro Leu Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Pro Val Trp Asp Tyr
355 360 365

Lys Ala Lys Ser Lys Lys Asp Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Lys Tyr
370 375 380

Tyr Thr Ala Gly Tyr Lys Thr Asp Val Glu Ser Ile Lys Ile Asp Gly
385 390 395 400

Lys Lys His Gln Met Thr Phe Val Arg Asn Gly Lys Ser Gln Thr Phe
405 410 415

Thr Tyr Lys Tyr Ala Gly Tyr Lys Ile Leu Thr Tyr Lys Lys Gly Asn
420 425 430

Arg Gly Val Arg Tyr Leu Phe Glu Ala Lys Glu Lys Asp Ala Gly Gln
435 440 445

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Phe Lys Tyr Ile Gln Phe Ser Asp His Gly Ile Lys Pro Asn Lys Ala
 450 455 460

Glu His Phe His Ile Phe Trp Gly Ser Glu Ser Gln Glu Lys Leu Phe
 465 470 475 480

Glu Glu Met Glu Asn Trp Pro Thr Tyr Phe Pro Ala Lys Met Ser Gly
 485 490 495

Arg Glu Val Ala Gln Asp Leu Met Ser His
 500 505

<210> SEQ ID NO 24
 <211> LENGTH: 506
 <212> TYPE: PRT
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus agalactiae

<400> SEQUENCE: 24

Met Arg Lys Lys Phe Leu Leu Leu Met Ser Phe Val Ala Met Phe Ala
 1 5 10 15

Ala Trp Gln Leu Val Gln Val Lys Gln Val Trp Ala Asp Ser Lys Leu
 20 25 30

Lys Val Val Thr Thr Phe Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Phe Thr Lys Asn Val
 35 40 45

Val Gly Asp Lys Ala Asp Val Ser Met Leu Ile Lys Ala Gly Thr Glu
 50 55 60

Pro His Asp Phe Glu Pro Ser Thr Lys Asn Ile Ala Ala Ile Gln Asp
 65 70 75 80

Ser Asn Ala Phe Val Tyr Met Asp Asp Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Ala Pro
 85 90 95

Lys Val Ala Lys Ser Val Lys Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Thr Ile Lys Gly
 100 105 110

Thr Gly Asp Met Leu Leu Thr Lys Gly Val Glu Glu Glu Gly Glu Glu
 115 120 125

His Glu Gly His Gly His Glu Gly His His His Glu Leu Asp Pro His
 130 135 140

Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Glu Arg Ala Ile Ser Val Val Glu Asn Ile Arg
 145 150 155 160

Asn Lys Phe Val Lys Ala Tyr Pro Lys Asp Ala Ala Ser Phe Asn Lys
 165 170 175

Asn Ala Asp Ala Tyr Ile Ala Lys Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Glu Tyr
 180 185 190

Lys Asn Gly Leu Ser Asn Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His
 195 200 205

Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln Val Pro
 210 215 220

Ile Ala Gly Leu Thr Pro Asp Ala Glu Pro Ser Ser Lys Arg Leu Gly
 225 230 235 240

Glu Leu Ala Lys Tyr Ile Lys Lys Tyr Asn Ile Asn Tyr Ile Tyr Phe
 245 250 255

Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Asp Glu Val
 260 265 270

Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Ser Lys Lys
 275 280 285

Glu Met Ala Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr Phe Ser Val Met Arg Arg Asn Leu
 290 295 300

Lys Val Leu Lys Lys Thr Thr Asp Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Val Ala Pro
 305 310 315 320

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Glu Glu Asp Lys Thr Lys Thr Val Glu Thr Gly Tyr Phe Lys Thr Lys
 325 330 335
 Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Thr Asp Tyr Ser Gly Asn Trp Gln Ser
 340 345 350
 Val Tyr Pro Leu Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Pro Val Trp Asp Tyr
 355 360 365
 Lys Ala Lys Ser Lys Lys Asp Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Lys Tyr
 370 375 380
 Tyr Thr Ala Gly Tyr Lys Thr Asp Val Glu Ser Ile Lys Ile Asp Gly
 385 390 395 400
 Lys Lys His Gln Met Thr Phe Val Arg Asn Gly Lys Ser Gln Thr Phe
 405 410 415
 Thr Tyr Lys Tyr Ala Gly Tyr Lys Ile Leu Thr Tyr Lys Lys Gly Asn
 420 425 430
 Arg Gly Val Arg Tyr Leu Phe Glu Ala Lys Glu Lys Asp Ala Gly Gln
 435 440 445
 Phe Lys Tyr Ile Gln Phe Ser Asp His Gly Ile Lys Pro Asn Lys Ala
 450 455 460
 Glu His Phe His Ile Phe Trp Gly Ser Glu Ser Gln Glu Lys Leu Phe
 465 470 475 480
 Glu Glu Met Glu Asn Trp Pro Thr Tyr Phe Pro Ala Lys Met Ser Gly
 485 490 495
 Arg Glu Val Ala Gln Asp Leu Met Ser His
 500 505

<210> SEQ ID NO 25
 <211> LENGTH: 1548
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus equisimilis
 <400> SEQUENCE: 25

atgaagaaga aaattctttt aatgattagt ttaatcgggtg tgttttttgc ttggcaactt 60
 agccaagcaa aacaagtgtt agcagagggt aaagttaagg ttgtcacaaac tttctaccct 120
 gtctacgaat ttacaaaagg tgttattggt aatgatggcg atgtctcact attgatgaag 180
 gcaggaacag agcctcatga ttttgaaccg tcaaccaaag acattaaaaa aattcaagat 240
 gcagatgcgt tcgtttatat ggacgacaac atggaaacat ggatttctga tgttaaaaaa 300
 tcattgaaat ctaaaaaagt aaccattggt aaaggaactg gtaacatgct actttagtagca 360
 ggagctggac atgaccatca ccatgaggat gctgacaaaa agcatgagca taataaacat 420
 agcgaagaag gacacaacca tgcttttgac ccacacgtgt ggttgtcacc ataccgtagc 480
 attacggtcg ttgaaaatat tcgcgacagt ctttcaaaag cttaccaga aaaagcagag 540
 aacttcaaag ccaatgccgc tacttatatt gaaaaattaa aagagcttga caaagactat 600
 acggcagcac tttcagatgc taagcaaaaag agctttgtca ctcaacatgc tgcttttggc 660
 tacatggcac ttgactatgg cttgaaccaa atttctatta atggtgtcac accagatgca 720
 gaaccatcag caaaacgtat tgctactttg tcaaaatcag ttaaaaaata tggcatcaaa 780
 tacatttatt ttgaggaaaa tgcttcaaat aaggtagcta aaacgttagc taaggaagca 840
 ggagttaaaa cagctgttct tagtcctctt gaaggcttaa cagaaaaaga aatgaaagca 900
 ggccaagatt actttacagt catgcgcaaa aaccttgaaa cattacgctt gacgactgat 960
 gttgccggta aagaaatcct tccagaagaa gataccacta agacagtgta taatggttac 1020
 ttcaaagata aagatgtcaa agaccgtaaa ttatctgact ggtctggtaa ctggcagtct 1080

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gtttacccat accttcaaga tggcacttta gaccaagttt gggattacaa ggctaaaaaa 1140
tctaaaggta aaatgacagc agctgaatac aaagattact acactactgg ttacaaaact 1200
gatgtggagc aaatcaacat taatggtaag aaaaacacca tgacatttgt gcgaaatggt 1260
gaaaagaaaa cctttactta caaatatgct ggtaaagaaa tattgactta tccaaaagga 1320
aatcgtgggg ttcgtttcat gtttgaagct aaagaagcag atgctggcga attcaaatac 1380
gttcaattca gtgaccatgc cattgctccg gaaaaagcag agcatttcca cttgtattgg 1440
gggtgtgata gccaaagaaa attacataaa gagttagaac attggccaac ttactacggg 1500
tcagacttat ctggctgtga aattgcccaa gaaattaacg ctcattaa 1548

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<210> SEQ ID NO 26

<211> LENGTH: 515

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus equisimilis

<400> SEQUENCE: 26

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Met Lys Lys Lys Ile Leu Leu Met Ile Ser Leu Ile Gly Val Phe Phe
1           5           10           15
Ala Trp Gln Leu Ser Gln Ala Lys Gln Val Leu Ala Glu Gly Lys Val
20           25           30
Lys Val Val Thr Thr Phe Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Phe Thr Lys Gly Val
35           40           45
Ile Gly Asn Asp Gly Asp Val Ser Leu Leu Met Lys Ala Gly Thr Glu
50           55           60
Pro His Asp Phe Glu Pro Ser Thr Lys Asp Ile Lys Lys Ile Gln Asp
65           70           75           80
Ala Asp Ala Phe Val Tyr Met Asp Asp Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Ile Ser
85           90           95
Asp Val Lys Lys Ser Leu Lys Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly
100          105          110
Thr Gly Asn Met Leu Leu Val Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His His His
115          120          125
Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys Lys His Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly
130          135          140
His Asn His Ala Phe Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser
145          150          155          160
Ile Thr Val Val Glu Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro
165          170          175
Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn Phe Lys Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys
180          185          190
Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Asp Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys
195          200          205
Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu
210          215          220
Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln Ile Ser Ile Asn Gly Val Thr Pro Asp Ala
225          230          235          240
Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Ser Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys
245          250          255
Tyr Gly Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val
260          265          270
Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu Ala Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser
275          280          285
Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Thr Glu Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr

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290			295			300		
Phe Thr Val	Met Arg	Lys Asn	Leu Glu	Thr Leu	Arg Leu	Thr Thr	Asp	
305		310		315			320	
Val Ala Gly	Lys Glu	Ile Leu	Pro Glu	Glu Asp	Thr Thr	Lys Thr	Val	
		325		330			335	
Tyr Asn Gly	Tyr Phe	Lys Asp	Lys Asp	Val Lys	Asp Arg	Lys Leu	Ser	
	340			345		350		
Asp Trp Ser	Gly Asn	Trp Gln	Ser Val	Tyr Pro	Tyr Leu	Gln Asp	Gly	
	355		360			365		
Thr Leu Asp	Gln Val	Trp Asp	Tyr Lys	Ala Lys	Lys Ser	Lys Gly	Lys	
	370		375			380		
Met Thr Ala	Ala Glu	Tyr Lys	Asp Tyr	Tyr Thr	Thr Gly	Tyr Lys	Thr	
385		390		395			400	
Asp Val Glu	Gln Ile	Asn Ile	Asn Gly	Lys Lys	Asn Thr	Met Thr	Phe	
	405			410			415	
Val Arg Asn	Gly Glu	Lys Lys	Thr Phe	Thr Tyr	Lys Tyr	Ala Gly	Lys	
	420		425			430		
Glu Ile Leu	Thr Tyr	Pro Lys	Gly Asn	Arg Gly	Val Arg	Phe Met	Phe	
	435		440			445		
Glu Ala Lys	Glu Ala	Asp Ala	Gly Glu	Phe Lys	Tyr Val	Gln Phe	Ser	
	450		455			460		
Asp His Ala	Ile Ala	Pro Glu	Lys Ala	Glu His	Phe His	Leu Tyr	Trp	
465		470		475			480	
Gly Gly Asp	Ser Gln	Glu Lys	Leu His	Lys Glu	Leu Glu	His Trp	Pro	
	485			490		495		
Thr Tyr Tyr	Gly Ser	Asp Leu	Ser Gly	Arg Glu	Ile Ala	Gln Glu	Ile	
	500		505			510		
Asn Ala His								
	515							

<210> SEQ ID NO 27

<211> LENGTH: 1548

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus equisimilis

<400> SEQUENCE: 27

```

atgaagaaga aaattctttt aatgattagt ttaatcggtg tgttttttgc ttggcaactt    60
agccaagcaa aacaagtgtt agcagagggt aaagttaagg ttgtcacaac tttctaccct    120
gtctacgaat ttacaaaagg tgttattggt aatgatggcg atgtttccat gcttatgaaa    180
gcaggaacag agcctcatga ttttgaaccg tcaaccaaag acattaaaaa aattcaagat    240
gcagatgcgt tcgtttatat ggacgacaac atggaaacat ggattttctga tgttaaaaaa    300
tcattgacat ctaaaaaagt aaccattggt aaaggaactg gtaacatgct acttgtagca    360
ggagctggac atgaccatca ccatgaggat gctgacaaaa agcatgagca taataaacat    420
agcgaagaag gacacaacca tgcttttgac ccacacgtgt ggttgtcacc ataccgtagc    480
attacggtcg ttgaaaatat tcgcgacagt ctttcaaaag cttaccaga aaaagcagaa    540
aacttcaaag ccaatgccgc tacttatatt gaaaaattaa aagagcttga caaagactat    600
acggcagcac tttcagatgc taagcaaaag agctttgtca ctcaacatgc tgcttttggc    660
tacatggcac ttgactatgg cttgaaccaa atttctatta atggtgtcac accagataca    720
gaaccatcag caaacgtat tgctaacttg tcaaaatcag ttaaaaaata tggcatcaaa    780
tacatttatt ttgaggaaaa tgcttcaaat aaggtagcta aaacgttagc taaggaagca    840

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ggaggttaaaa cagctgttct tagtcctctt gaaggcttaa cagaaaaaga aatgaaagca 900
ggcgaagatt accttacagt catgcgcaaa aaccttgaaa cattacgctt gacgactgat 960
gttgccggta aagaaatcct tccagaagaa gataccacta agacagtgta taatggttac 1020
ttcaaagata aagatgtcaa agaccgtaaa ttatctgact ggtctggtaa ctggcagtct 1080
gtttacccat accttcaaga tggcacttta gaccaagttt gggattacaa ggctaaaaaa 1140
tctaaaggta aatgacagc agctgaatac aaagattact aactactgg ttacaaaact 1200
gatgtggagc aatcaacat taatggtaag aaaaacacca tgacatttgt gcgaaatggt 1260
gaaaagaaaa cttttactta caaatatgct ggtaagaaa tattgactta tccaaaagga 1320
aatcgtgggg ttcgtttcat gtttgaagct aaagaagcag atgctggcga attcaaatac 1380
gttcaattca gtgacatgc cattgctccg gaaaaagcag agcatttcca cttgtattgg 1440
ggtggtgata gccaaagaaa attacataaa gagttagaac attggccaac ttactacggt 1500
tcagacttat ctggtcgtga aattgcccag gaaattaacg ctcattaa 1548

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<210> SEQ ID NO 28

<211> LENGTH: 515

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus equisimilis

<400> SEQUENCE: 28

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Met Lys Lys Lys Ile Leu Leu Met Ile Ser Leu Ile Gly Val Phe Phe
1 5 10 15
Ala Trp Gln Leu Ser Gln Ala Lys Gln Val Leu Ala Glu Gly Lys Val
20 25 30
Lys Val Val Thr Thr Phe Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Phe Thr Lys Gly Val
35 40 45
Ile Gly Asn Asp Gly Asp Val Ser Met Leu Met Lys Ala Gly Thr Glu
50 55 60
Pro His Asp Phe Glu Pro Ser Thr Lys Asp Ile Lys Lys Ile Gln Asp
65 70 75 80
Ala Asp Ala Phe Val Tyr Met Asp Asp Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Ile Ser
85 90 95
Asp Val Lys Lys Ser Leu Thr Ser Lys Lys Val Thr Ile Val Lys Gly
100 105 110
Thr Gly Asn Met Leu Leu Val Ala Gly Ala Gly His Asp His His His
115 120 125
Glu Asp Ala Asp Lys Lys His Glu His Asn Lys His Ser Glu Glu Gly
130 135 140
His Asn His Ala Phe Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro Tyr Arg Ser
145 150 155 160
Ile Thr Val Val Glu Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys Ala Tyr Pro
165 170 175
Glu Lys Ala Glu Asn Phe Lys Ala Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr Ile Glu Lys
180 185 190
Leu Lys Glu Leu Asp Lys Asp Tyr Thr Ala Ala Leu Ser Asp Ala Lys
195 200 205
Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe Gly Tyr Met Ala Leu
210 215 220
Asp Tyr Gly Leu Asn Gln Ile Ser Ile Asn Gly Val Thr Pro Asp Thr
225 230 235 240
Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Arg Ile Ala Thr Leu Ser Lys Tyr Val Lys Lys
245 250 255

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Tyr Gly Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser Asn Lys Val
 260 265 270

Ala Lys Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu Ala Gly Val Lys Thr Ala Val Leu Ser
 275 280 285

Pro Leu Glu Gly Leu Thr Glu Lys Glu Met Lys Ala Gly Glu Asp Tyr
 290 295 300

Phe Thr Val Met Arg Lys Asn Leu Glu Thr Leu Arg Leu Thr Thr Asp
 305 310 315 320

Val Ala Gly Lys Glu Ile Leu Pro Glu Glu Asp Thr Thr Lys Thr Val
 325 330 335

Tyr Asn Gly Tyr Phe Lys Asp Lys Asp Val Lys Asp Arg Lys Leu Ser
 340 345 350

Asp Trp Ser Gly Asn Trp Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr Leu Gln Asp Gly
 355 360 365

Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Trp Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys Lys Ser Lys Gly Lys
 370 375 380

Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Asp Tyr Tyr Thr Thr Gly Tyr Lys Thr
 385 390 395 400

Asp Val Glu Gln Ile Asn Ile Asn Gly Lys Lys Asn Thr Met Thr Phe
 405 410 415

Val Arg Asn Gly Glu Lys Lys Thr Phe Thr Tyr Lys Tyr Ala Gly Lys
 420 425 430

Glu Ile Leu Thr Tyr Pro Lys Gly Asn Arg Gly Val Arg Phe Met Phe
 435 440 445

Glu Ala Lys Glu Ala Asp Ala Gly Glu Phe Lys Tyr Val Gln Phe Ser
 450 455 460

Asp His Ala Ile Ala Pro Glu Lys Ala Glu His Phe His Leu Tyr Trp
 465 470 475 480

Gly Gly Asp Ser Gln Glu Lys Leu His Lys Glu Leu Glu His Trp Pro
 485 490 495

Thr Tyr Tyr Gly Ser Asp Leu Ser Gly Arg Glu Ile Ala Gln Glu Ile
 500 505 510

Asn Ala His
 515

<210> SEQ ID NO 29
 <211> LENGTH: 1499
 <212> TYPE: DNA
 <213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus anginosus
 <400> SEQUENCE: 29

tgaagaaaat tggctctatta gtagcaagtt tactgagtat ctttttagtg gcttgttcca 60
 atcaaaaaag tgcaaatggg aaattaaatg ttgtcacaac attttacca gtttatgaat 120
 ttaccaagca agtagcagcg gatactgcca atgtcaaact cttgattggt gcaggaacag 180
 aaccgcacga atacgagcct tctgccaagg cagttgcaac gattcaagat gcagatgctt 240
 ttgtatatga aatgaaaat atggaaactt gggtaccaa attgctcaa actttgaaaa 300
 aagacaaagt aatgtggtg aaagcaagtg gaaaaatggt gcttcttctt ggtacagaag 360
 aggaagaaga ccatgatcat gggagcgaag gacaccatca tgaatacgat ccccatgtgt 420
 ggtgtgcacc aaaacgtgcc attaaatgg tggagaatat tcgtgacagc ttaagtaaac 480
 gctatcccca taagaaagcg actttccaaa agaacgcagc agcttacatt aagaaattag 540
 aaactctgga taaagaatat gcaactggtt tagcaaatgc aaaacaaaa agttttgtga 600
 cgcaacatgc tgcttttcga tatcttgcac tggattatgg tttgaaacaa gttcctattt 660

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caggactttc accagatagt gaggccttcag cagcgcggtt ggctgaattg acaaaatata 720
ttaagaaaaa caatatcaag tacatttact ttgaagaaaa tgcttctcaa gctttggcat 780
ctactttggc aaaagaaaca ggtgtgaagt tggatgtgct caatccactt gaaagtctaa 840
cagaaaaaca aaccaagac ggggcagatt acatttcaat catgaagtcc aacttgaaag 900
ccttgaaaaa gacaaccgat caagcaggcg ctgagatttc tgctgaaaaa gaggaaaaata 960
cgaagactgt acaaaatggt tactttgaag atagtgtgtg taaagaccgt actttgtctg 1020
actatgcagg tcaatggcaa tcagtttatc catacttaca agatgggact ttagaccaag 1080
tctttgatta caaggcaaaa ttaactggta agatgacagc agctgagtac aaagcctatt 1140
atgaaaaggg ctacaagaca gatgtgtctc atatcaatat cacagataag accatggaat 1200
ttgtagtaaa cgggcaaaa aagaaatata cttataaata tgttggttaag catacattga 1260
cgtactctaa agggaaccga ggcgtgctt tcatgtttga agcgacagac ccagatgcag 1320
gtaagtataa atatgttcaa tttagcgacc ataatactgc cccaacgaaa gcagcgcat 1380
tccatatctt ctacggcggt gaaagccaag aagccctctt taacgaatta gaaaattggc 1440
caacttacta cccaactaaa ttaagcggac aagaaattgc tcaagaaatg cttgcgcat 1499

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<210> SEQ ID NO 30

<211> LENGTH: 500

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus anginosus

<400> SEQUENCE: 30

```

Met Lys Lys Ile Gly Leu Leu Val Ala Ser Leu Leu Ser Ile Phe Leu
1           5           10          15
Val Ala Cys Ser Asn Gln Lys Ser Ala Asn Gly Lys Leu Asn Val Val
20          25          30
Thr Thr Phe Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Phe Thr Lys Gln Val Ala Gly Asp
35          40          45
Thr Ala Asn Val Lys Leu Leu Ile Gly Ala Gly Thr Glu Pro His Glu
50          55          60
Tyr Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Ala Val Ala Thr Ile Gln Asp Ala Asp Ala
65          70          75          80
Phe Val Tyr Glu Asn Glu Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Val Pro Lys Leu Leu
85          90          95
Lys Thr Leu Lys Lys Asp Lys Val Asn Val Val Lys Ala Ser Gly Lys
100         105        110
Met Leu Leu Leu Pro Gly Thr Glu Glu Glu Glu Asp His Asp His Gly
115        120        125
Ser Glu Gly His His His Glu Tyr Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro
130        135        140
Lys Arg Ala Ile Lys Met Val Glu Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys
145        150        155        160
Arg Tyr Pro Asp Lys Lys Ala Thr Phe Gln Lys Asn Ala Ala Ala Tyr
165        170        175
Ile Lys Lys Leu Glu Thr Leu Asp Lys Glu Tyr Ala Thr Gly Leu Ala
180        185        190
Asn Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe Arg Tyr
195        200        205
Leu Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Lys Gln Val Pro Ile Ser Gly Leu Ser
210        215        220
Pro Asp Ser Glu Pro Ser Ala Ala Arg Leu Ala Glu Leu Thr Lys Tyr

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225	230	235	240
Ile Lys Lys Asn Asn Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser	245	250	255
Gln Ala Leu Ala Ser Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu Thr Gly Val Lys Leu Asp	260	265	270
Val Leu Asn Pro Leu Glu Ser Leu Thr Glu Lys Gln Thr Lys Asp Gly	275	280	285
Ala Asp Tyr Ile Ser Ile Met Lys Ser Asn Leu Lys Ala Leu Lys Lys	290	295	300
Thr Thr Asp Gln Ala Gly Ala Glu Ile Ser Ala Glu Lys Glu Glu Asn	305	310	315
Thr Lys Thr Val Gln Asn Gly Tyr Phe Glu Asp Ser Ala Val Lys Asp	325	330	335
Arg Thr Leu Ser Asp Tyr Ala Gly Gln Trp Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr	340	345	350
Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Phe Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys Leu	355	360	365
Thr Gly Lys Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Ala Tyr Tyr Glu Lys Gly	370	375	380
Tyr Lys Thr Asp Val Ser His Ile Asn Ile Thr Asp Lys Thr Met Glu	385	390	395
Phe Val Val Asn Gly Gln Lys Lys Lys Tyr Thr Tyr Lys Tyr Val Gly	405	410	415
Lys His Thr Leu Thr Tyr Ser Lys Gly Asn Arg Gly Val Arg Phe Met	420	425	430
Phe Glu Ala Thr Asp Pro Asp Ala Gly Lys Tyr Lys Tyr Val Gln Phe	435	440	445
Ser Asp His Asn Ile Ala Pro Thr Lys Ala Ala His Phe His Ile Phe	450	455	460
Tyr Gly Gly Glu Ser Gln Glu Ala Leu Phe Asn Glu Leu Glu Asn Trp	465	470	475
Pro Thr Tyr Tyr Pro Thr Lys Leu Ser Gly Gln Glu Ile Ala Gln Glu	485	490	495
Met Leu Ala His	500		

<210> SEQ ID NO 31

<211> LENGTH: 1500

<212> TYPE: DNA

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus constellatus subsp. constellatus

<400> SEQUENCE: 31

```

atgaagaaaa ttggtctatt agtagcaagc ttactaagtc tcttttagt agcttgttcc    60
aatcaaaaaa gcgcaaatgg gaagctaat attgtgacaa cattttatcc agtttatgag    120
tttactaagc aagtgcagg tgatactgct aatgttaaat tgctaatcgg tgcagggaca    180
gaaccacatg aatatgaacc ttctgctaag gcggttgcaa cgattcaaga tgcagatact    240
ttcgtttatg aaaatgaaaa catggaaact tgggtgccaa aattgcttaa aaccttgaaa    300
aaaggtaaag tgaatgtggt gaaggcgact ggaagatgt tgctactgcc tggtacagaa    360
gaggaaggag atcatgatca tggtaaagaa ggacatcatc atgaatacga tcctcatgta    420
tggttatcac caaaactgac tattaaaatg gtgaaaata ttcgtgacag cttaagttaa    480
cgctatccag ataagaaagc aactttcaa aagaacgcag caacttacat taagaaatta    540
gaaactctgg ataaagaata tgcaactggt ttagcaaatg caaacaataa aagttttgtg    600

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acgcaacatg ctgcttttcg atatcttgca ttggattatg gtttgaaca agttcctatt 660
tcagggtctt caccagatag tgagccttca gcagcgcggt tggctgaatt gacaaaatat 720
attaagaaaa acaatattaa gtatatctat tttgaagaaa atgcttctca agcattggct 780
tctacattgg caaaagaaac aggtgtgaag ttagatgtcc ttaatccgct tgaagtttg 840
actgaaaagc aaacaaaaga tggggcagac tacatttcaa tcatgaagtc caacttgaaa 900
gccttgaaga agacaactga ccaagcaggc gctgaaattt ctgctgaaaa agaaaaaat 960
acaagactg tacaaaatgg ctactttgaa gatagtgtcg ttaaagaccg tacgttgtct 1020
gactatgcag gtcaatggca atccgtttat ccatatttgc aagatggaac ttagacca 1080
gtctttgatt acaaaagaaa attaagcggg aagatgacag ctgctgagta caaagcgtat 1140
tatgaaaaag gctataagac agatgtgtct catatcaata tcacagataa gactatggaa 1200
ttttagtca acggacaaaa gaaaaaattt acttacaat acgttggtaa gcatacattg 1260
acttattcta aaggcaatcg tgggtgtcgt ttcattgttg aaacaacgga taaagatgct 1320
ggaaaatata aatatgtgca attcagcgac cataatattg caccaacgaa agcagcacac 1380
ttccatatct tctatggtgg tgaaaaccaa gaagcacttt tcaacgaatt agaaaattgg 1440
ccaacttact acccaactaa gctgagtgga caagaaatcg cccaagaaat gctcgcacat 1500

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<210> SEQ ID NO 32

<211> LENGTH: 500

<212> TYPE: PRT

<213> ORGANISM: Streptococcus constellatus subsp. constellatus

<400> SEQUENCE: 32

```

Met Lys Lys Ile Gly Leu Leu Val Ala Ser Leu Leu Ser Leu Phe Leu
1           5           10          15
Val Ala Cys Ser Asn Gln Lys Ser Ala Asn Gly Lys Leu Asn Ile Val
20          25          30
Thr Thr Phe Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Phe Thr Lys Gln Val Thr Gly Asp
35          40          45
Thr Ala Asn Val Lys Leu Leu Ile Gly Ala Gly Thr Glu Pro His Glu
50          55          60
Tyr Glu Pro Ser Ala Lys Ala Val Ala Thr Ile Gln Asp Ala Asp Thr
65          70          75          80
Phe Val Tyr Glu Asn Glu Asn Met Glu Thr Trp Val Pro Lys Leu Leu
85          90          95
Lys Thr Leu Lys Lys Gly Lys Val Asn Val Val Lys Ala Thr Gly Lys
100         105         110
Met Leu Leu Leu Pro Gly Thr Glu Glu Glu Gly Asp His Asp His Gly
115         120         125
Lys Glu Gly His His His Glu Tyr Asp Pro His Val Trp Leu Ser Pro
130         135         140
Lys Arg Ala Ile Lys Met Val Glu Asn Ile Arg Asp Ser Leu Ser Lys
145         150         155         160
Arg Tyr Pro Asp Lys Lys Ala Thr Phe Gln Lys Asn Ala Ala Thr Tyr
165         170         175
Ile Lys Lys Leu Glu Thr Leu Asp Lys Glu Tyr Ala Thr Gly Leu Ala
180         185         190
Asn Ala Lys Gln Lys Ser Phe Val Thr Gln His Ala Ala Phe Arg Tyr
195         200         205
Leu Ala Leu Asp Tyr Gly Leu Lys Gln Val Pro Ile Ser Gly Leu Ser
210         215         220

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Pro Asp Ser Glu Pro Ser Ala Ala Arg Leu Ala Glu Leu Thr Lys Tyr
 225 230 235 240

Ile Lys Lys Asn Asn Ile Lys Tyr Ile Tyr Phe Glu Glu Asn Ala Ser
 245 250 255

Gln Ala Leu Ala Ser Thr Leu Ala Lys Glu Thr Gly Val Lys Leu Asp
 260 265 270

Val Leu Asn Pro Leu Glu Ser Leu Thr Glu Lys Gln Thr Lys Asp Gly
 275 280 285

Ala Asp Tyr Ile Ser Ile Met Lys Ser Asn Leu Lys Ala Leu Lys Lys
 290 295 300

Thr Thr Asp Gln Ala Gly Ala Glu Ile Ser Ala Glu Lys Glu Lys Asn
 305 310 315 320

Thr Lys Thr Val Gln Asn Gly Tyr Phe Glu Asp Ser Ala Val Lys Asp
 325 330 335

Arg Thr Leu Ser Asp Tyr Ala Gly Gln Trp Gln Ser Val Tyr Pro Tyr
 340 345 350

Leu Gln Asp Gly Thr Leu Asp Gln Val Phe Asp Tyr Lys Ala Lys Leu
 355 360 365

Ser Gly Lys Met Thr Ala Ala Glu Tyr Lys Ala Tyr Tyr Glu Lys Gly
 370 375 380

Tyr Lys Thr Asp Val Ser His Ile Asn Ile Thr Asp Lys Thr Met Glu
 385 390 395 400

Phe Val Val Asn Gly Gln Lys Lys Lys Phe Thr Tyr Lys Tyr Val Gly
 405 410 415

Lys His Thr Leu Thr Tyr Ser Lys Gly Asn Arg Gly Val Arg Phe Met
 420 425 430

Phe Glu Thr Thr Asp Lys Asp Ala Gly Lys Tyr Lys Tyr Val Gln Phe
 435 440 445

Ser Asp His Asn Ile Ala Pro Thr Lys Ala Ala His Phe His Ile Phe
 450 455 460

Tyr Gly Gly Glu Asn Gln Glu Ala Leu Phe Asn Glu Leu Glu Asn Trp
 465 470 475 480

Pro Thr Tyr Tyr Pro Thr Lys Leu Ser Gly Gln Glu Ile Ala Gln Glu
 485 490 495

Met Leu Ala His
 500

What is claimed:

1. An isolated polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:32.
2. The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 97% identical to SEQ ID NO:32.
3. An immunogenic composition comprising an isolated polypeptide that comprises:
 - a) an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:32; or
 - b) the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:32.

4. A method for inducing an immune response to a beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* bacterium or to a beta hemolytic streptococcal infection in a patient comprising administering to the patient the immunogenic composition of claim 3.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the beta hemolytic *Streptococcus* bacterium or the beta hemolytic streptococcal infection is from a Group A, Group B, Group C or Group G *streptococcus*.
6. A kit comprising an isolated polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO:32.

* * * * *